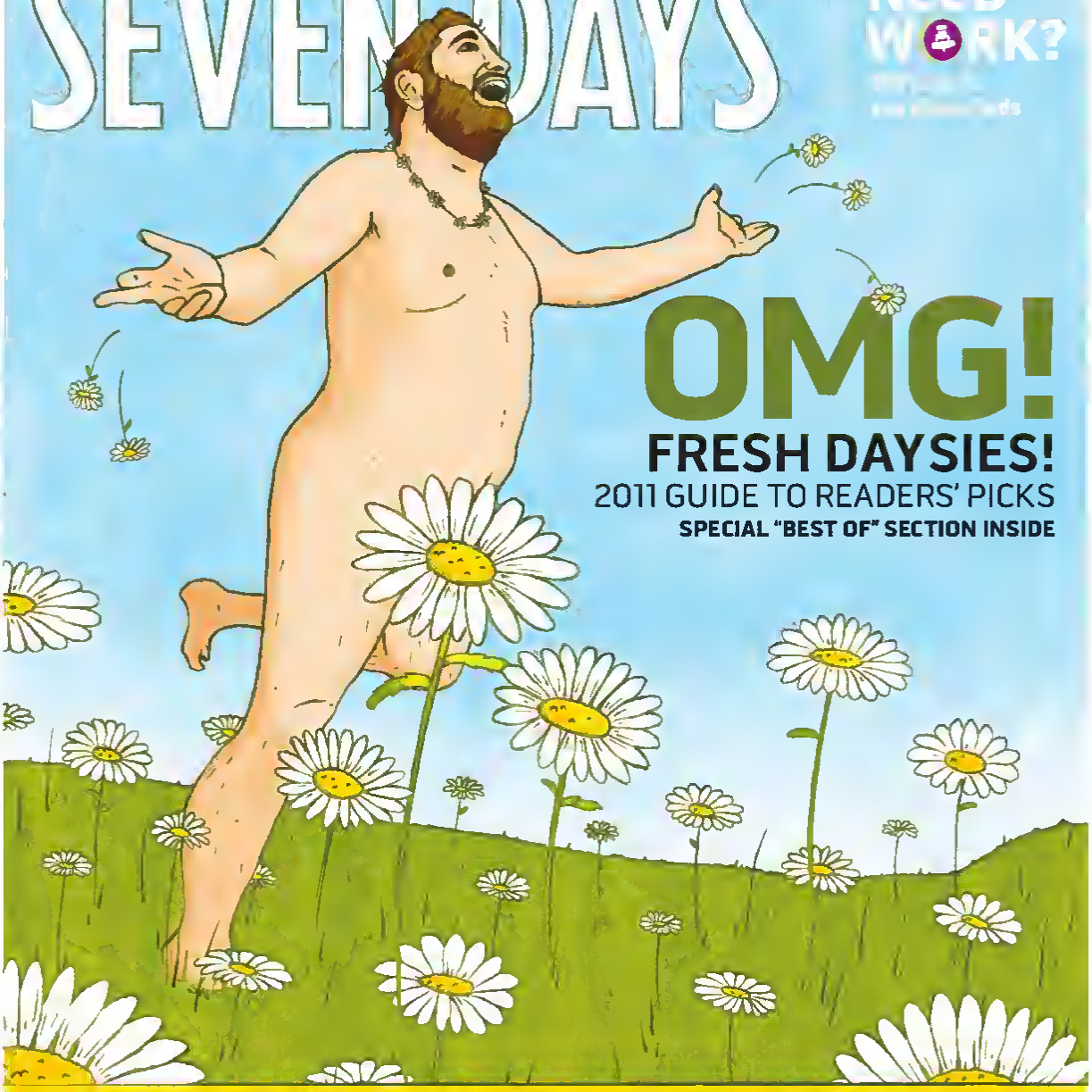
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2011 GUIDE TO READERS' PICKS

SPECIAL "BEST OF" SECTION INSIDE

SCI-FI SURGERY PAGE 16
Help for a breathtaking disease?

GETTING HOPS UP PAGE 28
Local growers entice beer makers

GOING WITH FLO PAGE 32
A senior vaulter takes aim

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Closing Time



It's the end of an era in Burlington. Last week, members of the Klifa Club announced that they're closing up shop and selling their stately Pearl Street HQ. Online editor Tyler Machado wrote about the sale on Blurt, the *Seven Days* staff blog.

Built by Horace Loomis in 1800, the historic home once hosted visitors including Henry Clay and President William Henry Harrison. It was donated to Klifa, an exclusive women's social club, in 1924.

Klifa was founded in 1900 and named for the Icelandic word for "to climb." In a time when few women worked outside the home, the Klifa Club offered a way for women to get involved in community and charitable activities. Members also socialized and listened to a diverse array of prominent speakers at afternoon luncheons.

At one point, these luncheons drew as many as 250 women. But current Klifa Club president Christine Powell told Machado that attendance had dwindled in recent years. "In the end, we would be lucky if 25 attended," she said, noting that contemporary professional women can't enjoy lunch and tea on Thursdays at 2 p.m.

"People now are more social on the soccer fields than in the social clubs," Powell lamented.

The Klifa Club was one of five social hubs online editor Cathy Resmer toured for a story in 2003 ("Right Clubbing," July 2, 2003). Since then, three of the five — Klifa, the Athena Club and the Ethan Allen Club — have closed.

Find Machado's blog post, with photos of the club's interior — and a link to Resmer's story — at sevendaysvt.com/blurt.



PHOTOS BY TYLER MACHADO

Looking for the news blog posts?
Find them in "Local Matters" on p. 15

facing facts

REAL STEAL

Vermont's "embezzlement" crane is spreading to crunchy co-ops now. At Montpelier's Hunger Mountain, taking from the till is called "grand larceny."

LOWERING THE BOOM

The Vermont Supreme[s] ruled against a drunken boom lift operator. More alarming? Neither snowmobiles nor trains are considered "motor vehicles."

NO P.O.

The feds want to shutter 14 money-losing Vermont post offices. Bad weather can't stop the mail from reaching the post office, but budget cuts can.

A, B, C OR ZZZZZ?

Bennington students won't be allowed to wear pajamas or bedroom slippers when they come back to high school this month. Now *that's* a wake-up call for public education.

FACING FACTS COMPILED BY PAULA ROUTLY

19

That's the University of Vermont's ranking on the *Princeton Review*'s 2012 list of top party schools. Party on, Cats!

TOP FIVE

MOST POPULAR ITE[illegible]

1. **"Things to Do in Plattsburgh When You're Drunk"** by Dan Bolles. Our music editor surveys the nightlife scene in Plattsburgh. Readers respond in the Letters section on page 7. Bolles responds to their responses in "Soundbites" on page 54.
2. **"Unmanned Military Drones to Start Training Flights Over the Adirondacks"** by Ken Picard. Coming soon to the skies above the Adirondacks: unmanned flying drones that can read over your shoulder from 35,000 feet.
3. **"Fair Game: Tilting at Turbines"** by Shay Totten. More than 50 wind turbines could be erected on ridgelines in the Northeast Kingdom in the next few years. Do the benefits outweigh the irreversible environmental damage?
4. **"Dead Ringers"** by Lauren Ober. Phone booths are disappearing from Adirondack Park, and one woman is making it her quest to find them all before they're gone forever.
5. **"Fat Without Fear"** by Corin Hirsch. One Adirondack chef says we should stop fearing fat. Embrace meat and dairy products!

tweet of the week:

@WCAX_Dan

Drying out. July was our first month with below normal precipitation in #btv since January. 3.66" for the month, 0.29" below normal.



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FEEDback

READER REACTION TO RECENT ARTICLES

SNOWFLAKE: A POEM FOR BENTLEY DAVIS SEIFER

My 6 15 bus to Middlebury
became inconsequential
the corner of Locust & Hayward
told me so
a tree giving hope amidst pain
cornered me
a paper flake of cuts
made me float and reflect
upon one I did not know
I know him now
Shimmer young boy
Shimmer
We will see you next winter

James Gribbin
BURLINGTON

(Editor's note: This poem was submitted following the death of Bentley Davis Seifer, age 12.)

NOT A CSA

Kudos to Lauren Ober for her research and reporting on Wellspring and Samara farms ["Sharing the Bounty," July 20]. These hardworking CSA farmers deserve credit for the endless toiling that they do. I have taken the time out of my busy, 15-hour-a-day, seven-days-a-week farming life, however, to point out that the Intervale's Food Hub is not a CSA.

In a CSA, consumers receive food directly from the farmers. Growers and consumers share the risks and rewards. Members pay in advance to help farmers' spring cash flow. The Food Hub is an aggregator of wholesale markets. There is nothing "direct" about it. Members do not share in risk or bounty. Farmers do not receive money up front to help them offset costs. Customers are asked to pay in advance, but the farmers don't get that money; the center does.

We have been in mediation with the Food Hub. We asked them not to set up drop-offs directly across the street from already convenient pick-ups. They refused. We asked them to put a list of CSAs on their website. They refused. Two hundred and fifty words [word limit for letters to the editor] cannot counter the Food Hub's preposterous claims.

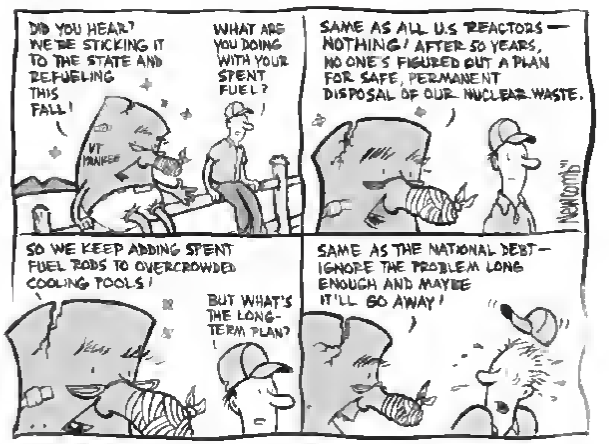
Competition from another farmer is fair game. Competition from a non-profit using the feel-good name of the Intervale, the feel-good idea of supporting local farmers and about $300,000 in grant funding to compete against real farmers is a shame.

If you want the truth, ask other CSAs in Chittenden County. Their responses would not be so glowing.

Rachel Navitt
HINESBURG

Navitt co-owns Full Moon Farm.

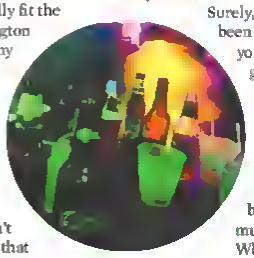
TIM NEWCOMB



PRO PLATTSBURGH

[Re: "Things to Do in Plattsburgh When You're Drunk," July 27]: I would like to suggest that the next time Dan Bolles decides to venture across the lake to Plattsburgh, he does so with more of an open mind. As a former resident of the city and graduate of SUNY Plattsburgh, I feel that trying to compare Plattsburgh to Burlington is absolutely asinine. It's a bit like comparing apples to oranges — yes, sometimes the use of an overused cliche is appropriate.

Oh, and the reason the locals could tell that you were from Vermont was the way you so wonderfully fit the pretentious Burlington stereotype that many Plattsburghers have about our neighbors to the east. There is a vibrancy found only in northern New York that encompasses the Plattsburgh community; a person isn't going to experience that by (1) not making friends with the locals and (2) only visiting a handful of drinking establishments on a hot summer night.



Kassia Fann
COXSACKIE, N.Y.

"RUMORS" HAS IT...

Even though I grew up in Vermont and have lived here off and on my entire adult life, I've never been to Plattsburgh. As such, I can't provide any firsthand insights as Dan Bolles did in his recent I-can't-believe-they-pay-me-to-do-this drunken diary ["Things to Do in Plattsburgh When You're Drunk," July 27].

That being said, I do have a couple of observations. First, after a tremendous amount of buildup and suspense, Dan and the gang never make it to the legendary Rumors nightclub. That's like the Griswold family never making it to Wally World in *National Lampoon's Vacation*. Is he holding back for a sequel?

Secondly, I really think Dan owes the people of Plattsburgh an apology for using an annoying mix of smugness and sarcasm to describe our neighbors across the lake. The whole "we should go back to hip 'n' cool Burlington and get away from these trashy people" attitude grew tiresome, quickly, as did Dan's repeated reminders that he's on local TV once a week.

Mike Bertrand
MONTPELIER

P-BURGH HAS HISTORY

I was surprised to read that Dan Bolles based his visit to Plattsburgh on the "bars" ["Things to Do in Plattsburgh When You're Drunk," July 27]. We are mostly known for our appreciation and deep respect for our historical sites and contributions.

I'm afraid by seeking "bars" he lost sight of the bigger picture over here, for example. The Battle of Plattsburgh, also known as the Battle of Lake Champlain, ended the final invasion of the northern states during the War of 1812, to name just one.

Surely, had your expedition been intellectual in scope, you may have found more gratifying treasures and had a more satisfying experience, minus the headache.

We have historic museums, monuments, treasured architectural buildings, gardens and so much more.

What we lack on the "bar" scene I'm sure you can find in Burlington; we do.

Maybe when you crossed the lake you missed the boat.

It's easy to tear a town down and more challenging to seek its attributes. Perhaps another day.

Bonnie Browndorf
CHAZY, N.Y.

(Editor's note: Dan was assigned to write a diary-esque piece about a night on the town — aka barhopping — in Plattsburgh, and that is what he did. Next time we'll send him to historic sites.)

FUNNY FIGURES

[Re: "Is a Conflict of Interest Behind South Burlington's Development Slowdown?" July 13]: Regarding South

FEEDBACK » P.18

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— *Susanna Weller, Starksboro*

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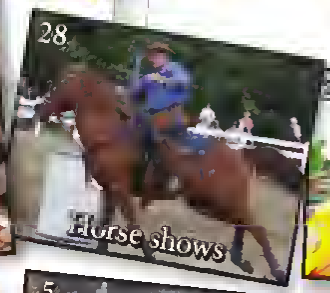
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the MAGNIFICENT 7

MUST SEE MUST DO THIS WEEK

COMPILED BY CAROLYN FOX

1

THURSDAY 4-SUNDAY 7

Clowning Around

A young French clown falls for an equestrian ballerina, and they run away to Venice, Italy to start their own one-ring circus in 1842. The storied early days of ***ZOPPÉ AN ITALIAN FAMILY CIRCUS*** sound less like real history and more like the plot of *Water for Elephants*. Add that to your list of reasons to see the enduring European-style troupe this weekend.

READ AN INTERVIEW WITH NINO THE CLOWN ON PAGE 30

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 45



2

WEDNESDAY 3-SATURDAY 6
TUESDAY 9 & WEDNESDAY 10

Wonder Women

Ah, prom. It's never short on drama: pop songs or poofy dresses, and neither is ***THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES***. Set at the 1958 Springfield High School dance, this jukebox musical from St. Michael's Playhouse threads a story through the era's frothy bubblegum hits, such as "It's My Party." It can be your party too through August 13.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 44

3

FRIDAY 5-SUNDAY 7

Mighty Heart

Balancing internationally known headliners with a strong locavore lineup, the talent at Plainfield's **EHINOFEST** is as mighty as the horned ungulate in the festival's name. Acts like Jahdan Blakkamoore & Noble Society, Michal Menert, EOTO, the Move, It Move It and Wombaticus Rex grace multiple stages in a natural amphitheater.

SEE CLUB SPOTLIGHT ON PAGE 56

SUNDAY 7

Fire and Water

In Asian cultures, dragons are viewed both as a force of nature and a token of good luck. You can't ask for better symbolism in the fight against cancer. Two thousand paddlers hit the waves in watercrafts adorned with images of the mythical creatures at the **Lake Champlain Dragon Boat Festival**, which raises money for breast cancer survivors.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 49

SATURDAY 6

Figaro, Figaro

Normal wedding day commotion is one thing. Mozart's ***The Marriage of Figaro***, a whirlwind of mistaken identities, nighttime rendezvous and cross-dressing, is quite another. Opera North's stellar cast sings about this *folla giomata* — day of madness — in its season opener, on stage through August 19. Up next: *Cinderella*, the pre-Walt Disney version.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 48

SATURDAY 6

Past in Present

We'll be long gone in 100,000 years, but that's the length of time waste from our nuclear power plants will remain hazardous. Folks commemorate the anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima by screening Michael Madsen's ***Into Eternity***, an award-winning documentary about nuclear-waste storage that the *Guardian* called "jaw-dropping."

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 47

ONGOING

Scene It

You'll recognize many of the water-soluble scenes in Bryan Memorial Gallery's latest exhibit, such as fall foliage bursting like fireworks in front of Mount Mansfield. Other landscapes, such as the dusty streets of a European village, may be foreign. But each of the late artists featured in **"Masters of Vermont: The Watercolorists"** either resided here or visited often, brush in hand to immortalize Vermont's landscapes.

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everything else...

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The Presidential Parachute

There's no end to the outrage over University of Vermont President **DAN FOGEL**'s severance package, with fresh criticism coming from Gov. **PETER SHUMLIN** and other prominent politicians under Montpelier's Golden Dome.

"When you treat pay packages and salaries more like corporate America than what we used to know about academic America, then you are making it unaffordable for Vermont kids," Shumlin said during a live call-in program on Thursday evening, July 28, on Vermont Public Television.

Perhaps Shumlin can use his position as an *ex officio* member of the board of trustees, and his ability to make appointments to that group, to curb UVM's appetite for outsize salaries and big buildings.

To that end, House Minority Leader **DON TURNER** (R-Milton) suggested lawmakers should pay "closer attention" to UVM's budget requests during the next legislative session.

In 2009, arguably the worst year of the Great Recession, Fogel not only refused to take a pay cut as many other public officials in Vermont did, but he and the trustees doled out $265,000 in bonuses to top administrators, including himself. In all, UVM's six-figure execs earned $900,000 in bonuses between 2006 and 2009. At the same time, Fogel laid off dozens of employees, froze the pay of others and cut baseball from UVM's sports program.

In response, Turner tried to withhold $900,000 in federal stimulus money for the university until UVM reversed course and accepted high-level pay cuts.

Turner's effort was thwarted as a result of heavy lobbying by fellow lawmakers and UVM supporters. Turner eventually backed off, and chided UVM from the House floor, instead.

From a distance of two years, Turner explained, "I went off and focused on other things, given the assurance that the message had been received. Now this happens, and I'm not so sure." He believes it might be time to revisit the tradition of having legislators on the UVM board of trustees. Nine of the 25 are elected lawmakers.

"I just don't know how you can objectively make decisions when you're also sitting on the board and agreeing to these compensation packages," said Turner. "It doesn't make sense to me that we're laying off people, and UVM is cutting budgets, and yet we approve this fat compensation package and then agree to pay him for 18 months after he decides to leave."

The legislators who officially weigh in on UVM matters are Reps. **BILL BOTZOW** (D-Bennington), **CAROLYN BRANAGAN** (R-Georgia), **JOAN LENES** (D-Shelburne), **DAVIA POTTER** (D-North Clarendon), **KESHA RAM** (D-Burlington) and **DONNA SWEANEY** (D-Windsor), Sen. **JEANETTE WHITE** (D-Windham), and former Democratic Reps. **CHRISTOPHER BRAY** and **HARRY CHEN**. Bray and Chen are no longer in the House, but their terms on the UVM board have not yet expired.

> EVERY VERMONTER SHOULD BE OUTRAGED BY HIS SEVERANCE PACKAGE. THAT IS NOT WHAT VERMONT IS ABOUT.
>
> CARMYN STANKO, PRESIDENT, UE LOCAL 267

Gov. Shumlin gets to appoint three people to the board, each for a six-year term. He reappointed **FRANK CIOFFI** earlier this year. Cioffi, a "Democrat for Douglas" and then a "Democrat for Dubie," was first appointed by Gov. **HOWARD DEAN** — an *actual* Democrat. The terms of the other two gubernatorial appointees — developer **JEFF DAVIS** and banker **MARK YOUNG** — don't expire until 2013 and 2015, respectively.

Which ones approved Fogel's golden parachute on July 20? Chen, Sweaney, Botzow, Branagan, Bray, Cioffi, Davis, Lenes, Potter and Ram. Although White attended the board meeting, she left before the unanimous vote was taken.

The group opted to give Fogel an additional five months of paid leave and benefits, which means he'll earn roughly $35,400 per month over the next 17 months. That includes a housing allowance to cover the $2000 monthly mortgage payment on his $1.2 million lakeside property in Colchester. And, no, neither UVM nor Vermont taxpayers hold an equity stake in the home, despite all the payments we've made toward it over the past nine years.

While Fogel gets $35,400 *per month*, the trustees are asking some of UVM's lowest-paid workers to accept a three-year contract that will net them a whopping 1 percent raise over the course of three years.

Maintenance workers represented by United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America Local 267 may also have to contribute more to their health care premiums if they don't opt for early retirement by July 1, 2012, their future retirement payouts could be reduced.

The union and UVM negotiators have been at an impasse for about three weeks. "This was probably the worst bargaining session we've had, and I've been at this for 10 years," said **CARMYN STANKO**, president of UE Local 267. Stanko has worked at UVM for 26 years.

"Every Vermonter should be outraged by his severance package," said Stanko. "That is not what Vermont is about. We don't get a $20,000 wellness premium, and every single one of us can talk about something in our life that has been difficult. If he's got a personal issue, why should that be paid for off our backs?"

Lorber's Launch

State Rep. **JASON LORBER** (D-Burlington) is about to make it official. He's running for mayor of the Queen City.

Lorber is the first pol to formally announce his intention to seek the city's highest office. Mayor **BOB KISS**, a Progressive, has hinted he may run again, as has Republican **KURT WRIGHT**, who is both a state representative and a city councilor. Wright said he'll make a formal announcement in the fall.

Whether Lorber can secure the Democratic nomination remains to be seen. It's still very early, and Chittenden County State's Attorney **T.J. DONOVAN** has not ruled out a run for the mayor's job. Other mayoral hopefuls include Councilor **KAREN PAUL** (I-Ward 6) and State Sen. **TIM ASHE** (D/P-Chittenden). Rep. **MARK LARSON** (D-Burlington) is out of the race; he was recently appointed to the Shumlin administration.

Lorber filed paperwork at the city clerk's office because he's already raised — or spent — more than $500 on the campaign. He's been holding "Backyard Brainstorms" to meet with Burlington

residents, business owners and nonprofit leaders

"I'm doing my homework," said Lorber, 44, who lives with his husband and 5-year-old son in Burlington's Old North End. "For now, my job is to engage in listening and form relationships across the city," he said. "I want to be able to hit the ground running, and that means understanding the city from the grassroots on up."

Lorber, who has an MBA from Stanford University, supplements his legislator pay by offering marketing and strategic-planning advice to businesses and organizations in Burlington and elsewhere. He's also a standup comedian. A few jokes sure could help lighten up Monday-night council meetings.

Lorber said his business and marketing background would allow him to help restore trust and fiscal stability to Burlington and "celebrate what makes Burlington unique."

OPINION

God vs. Bernie

Republican State Auditor **TOM SALMON** has increased the number of missives he sends to state and national political writers challenging the rhetoric and effectiveness of Sen. **BERNIE SANDERS** (I-VT).

In an email to "Fair Game," Salmon said for now it's "in God's hands" whether he runs against Sanders or Gov. Peter Shumlin. He'll make a final decision after Labor Day, when former Lt. Gov. **BRIAN DUBIE** makes his own political plans known.

A recent poll of 1200 Vermonters conducted by North Carolina's Public Policy Polling quantified Salmon's upstream battle against Sanders. In a head-to-head matchup, he'd lose by a whopping 34 points, 28-62.

PPP discovered that, of 85 senators, Sanders is the third "most liked." Sixty-seven percent of the people polled approve of the job he's doing. Just 28 percent disapprove. Damn.

PPP matched Sanders against seven other potential Republican opponents, and he bested them by anywhere from 18 to 39 points.

The closest competition was former GOP Gov. **JIM DOUGLAS**, who trailed Sanders 56-38.

Douglas shouldn't feel too bad, though. In a primary contest between Sanders and President **BARACK OBAMA** — in Vermont, no less — Sanders would lose by 19 points. Former Gov. Howard Dean would fare even worse, losing to Obama by 37 points.

I guess Vermont liberals are still holding out for that hope and change.

Blowin' in the Wind

Environmentalists were peeved by comments made by former fish and wildlife Commissioner **STEVE WRIGHT** in last week's "Fair Game." Wright was quoted as saying that the state's enviros were standing by while Lowell's ridgelme is being "blasted away into rubble."

Among them was **PAUL BURNS**, executive director of Vermont Public Interest Research Group. Burns also felt "Fair Game" should have given wind proponents more ink to balance out the piece.

To equate lowering the tops of Lowell's ridgelmes by 40 feet with removing entire mountaintops to extract coal is unfair, said Burns.

"I think it is patently offensive to suggest that this is even in the same league [as] mountaintop mining removal," said Burns.

For many years, Vermont has exported its energy footprint to natural-gas plants in New York and Pennsylvania, as well as large hydro dams in Quebec.

"It's a moral issue. We should be developing new sources of renewable energy that create as much power as we consume — right here in Vermont," said Burns.

VPIRG is a big proponent of wind power and claims Vermont could produce as much as 25 percent of its energy from roughly 145 turbines sprinkled across Vermont's ridgelines.

"That said, our position isn't all wind, everywhere, all the time," said Burns. "We support projects that are appropriately sited and go through the permit process. That doesn't mean there are no environmental impacts."

Burns empathizes with Northeast Kingdom residents who feel besieged by ridgeline proposals while power-hungry Chittenden County sees few, if any, in its backyard. ⑦

Can't wait till Wednesday for the next "Fair Game"? Tune in to WPTZ NewsChannel 5 on Tuesday nights during the 11 p.m. newscast for a preview.

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Canadian Tourists Are All Over Burlington, But No One Knows What That's Worth

BY KEN PICARD

BUSINESS



IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAVE A TICKER ... AT THE END OF CHURCH STREET.

GEN BURNELL, LAKE CHAMPLAIN REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

On a recent July afternoon in downtown Burlington, a Québécois family of four is enjoying a leisurely lunch at New Moon on Cherry Street. A few doors away, three teens speak French in the Ben & Jerry's ice cream shop on Church Street. Across the street, a man asks his wife's opinion, *en français*, about a pair of loafers he's trying on at Dear Lucy.

Why is "Jean," the shoe buyer, spending his money in Burlington when his native Montreal certainly has plenty of shoe shops? Jean smiles and rubs his fingers together, the universal sign language for cold, hard cash.

Anyone who frequents Church Street has noticed that a different kind of loonie-cy has taken hold of Burlington's pedestrian street this summer. The Canadian dollar continues to gain ground against the weaker U.S. dollar, approaching its highest exchange rate in five years. As of August 1, the Canadian dollar was worth $1.05 U.S., compared to March 2009, when it was worth just $0.77 U.S. That's causing Canadians, especially Québécois, to come across the border in search of bargains.

However compelling the anecdotal evidence may be, local tourism and travel experts admit it's difficult to gauge, in real time, how many Canadians are coming to Vermont or, more importantly, how much they're spending. Sales-tax receipts lag by several months, and companies such as MasterCard and Visa don't release statistics on cross-border card swipes — at least not without being paid handsomely for that data.

Similarly, each year the Vermont Department of Tourism and Marketing queries hotels, B&Bs and other lodgings, which routinely gather travelers' driver's license and zip code information. While that data aren't available yet, Jeff Webb, general manager of the Hilton Burlington, reports that Canadian bookings in July were up 21 percent over the same month last year. That's an increase of about 60 rooms.

"My gut feeling is it's been even stronger than that," Webb adds, noting his figures don't include guests who make reservations through certain travel websites and other channels that don't disclose the geographic origins of their customers.

Plus, many Canadian visitors don't stay overnight. As Gen Burnell of the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce puts it, "It's not like we have a ticker ... at the end of Church Street."

Nevertheless, the chamber has other ways of measuring the increase in Canadian consumption. Two weeks ago, for example, the organization added a Google Translate button to the visitor and tourism section of its website. This feature allows web users to translate the site into 52 different languages, from Afrikaans to Yiddish. Overwhelmingly, the most commonly clicked tongue is French.

Since the Google Translate feature was added, the chamber has already seen "amazing numbers," according to Burnell. In two weeks, the site, which was averaging two page views per visit, was up to seven page views per visit. The average time spent on the site has also tripled, jumping from two minutes to six minutes per visitor. Website traffic originating in Montreal jumped from 276 visits in July 2010 to 577 visits in July 2011.

The chamber has also seen a big jump in Canadian requests for Vermont brochures and travel guides based on the postal codes of people inquiring.

"Overwhelmingly, the visitors we receive are still urban Québécois — Laval and the island of Montreal," she adds. "I would say a good 60 to 70 percent of the traffic on our website and requests for information come from urban regions."

Such figures are consistent with what the Department of Tourism and Marketing is seeing. Deputy Commissioner Steve Cook reports that Canadians now account for more than 18 percent of Vermont's overall visitors — or about 2.5 million of the state's 13.7 million annual tourists.

Another indirect indicator: Requests for Vermont travel guides from Canadian travel agencies are twice what they were a year ago. That's a good sign, Cook says, especially since the state is spending more this year to promote tourism north of the border than in previous years. Of the $830,000 budgeted for out-of-state marketing, about $150,000 is being spent on print, web and display ads in Canada this summer; that's up 25 percent from last year.

The Church Street Marketplace has been trying to analyze Canadian business during the "shoulder seasons." So it asked 60 downtown businesses to track customer zip codes over a seven-day period in May and again in October. Although the May numbers haven't been fully compiled yet, executive director Ron Redmond says that, contrary to popular belief, most Marketplace visitors are Vermonters.

Redmond lauds efforts to make Burlington more accessible to French-speaking tourists, such as adding bilingual signage and French-speaking greeters. But he cautions that fluctuations in currency rates, gas prices and airfares are the real drivers in the equation, and it would be dangerous for merchants to become overly reliant on Canadian dollars.

"First and foremost, we want to be a destination for people in the region and locally," he says. "Because if you don't, you're not serving yourself or your community." ⑦





Not Your Granny's Bath Salts

Drug users across the country are going crazy — literally — over bath salts, and Vermont druggies could soon join the trend.

No, today's stoners aren't desperately seeking a high from Calgon. "Bath salts" is the street name for mephedrone and methylenedioxypyrovalerone, a powdery substance said to have effects similar to those of cocaine or methamphetamines, only more so.

Bath salts, which can be smoked, snorted or injected, produce a high lasting anywhere from 20 minutes to three hours. The drug, which is still legal in Vermont, also produces some nasty side effects, including suicidal depression, manic behavior, delusions and violence.

Only a few cases of bath salts use have been reported in Vermont so far. They've "been seen" here, said Lt. Paul Fuhrman, the southern supervisor for the Vermont State Police Drug Enforcement Task Force. "However, we don't believe that it is a widespread problem."

Fletcher Allen spokesman Mike Noble offered a similar assessment, saying ER docs at the Burlington medical center have encountered "very little" in the way of bath salts emergencies. Noble noted, though, that patients exhibiting acute reactions to one substance or another may not be forthright in indicating what they've ingested.

KEVIN J. KELLEY

To read the full stories, go to sevendaysvt.com.



Raid on Unlicensed Bakersfield Puppy Mill

Vermont State Police and an animal rescue task force from the Humane Society of the United States seized 54 dogs last week from a Bakersfield puppy mill where the animals were allegedly being housed in cruel and unsanitary conditions.

Police and animal welfare workers arrived at the Bakersfield home of Karen Maple, 48, to find scores of Labrador retrievers, both adults and puppies, crowded into small, wire, feces-encrusted pens, as well as numerous dogs running free. Many were malnourished and suffering from a variety of medical conditions, including dehydration and untreated wounds. The HSUS alleges that the property owner was illegally selling puppies over the Internet and via local classified ads to unsuspecting consumers. Maple now faces charges of animal cruelty as well as assault on a police officer.

"I can't tell you what the scene was like. Words just fail me," says Tom Ayres, president and CEO of the Humane Society of Chittenden County, which participated in a rescue operation that stretched from Tuesday morning until late in the night.

KEN PICARD



Pajamafication of America Hits Snag in Bennington

Thanks to a recent revision to the school dress code, students at the Mount Anthony Union High School in Bennington will be prohibited from wearing pajamas and slippers in school. No word yet on whether marmish bedjackets or lacy negligées will be allowed. Also no word on whether PajamaJeans will pass muster. Associate Principal David Bertau, in a recent Associated Press story was quoted as saying that slippers were a "safety hazard" and that students who come to school in their pajamas are "prepared for something other than learning." Like sleeping? Or living under a bridge?

LAUREN OBER

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Fletcher Allen Has a Candidate for Groundbreaking Windpipe Transplant

BY KEN PICARD

Rachel Phillips has a history of defying long odds. The Florida-born ballerina beat out 14,000 competitors to win a coveted spot in London's prestigious Royal Ballet. As a professional dancer, she traveled all over the world, and once shared a stage with Rudolf Nureyev.

More recently, Phillips pulled off her most spectacular feat yet. The Burlington resident found the only doctor in the world capable of saving her life. By coincidence, Paolo Macchiarini was in Burlington last week to attend an international medical conference. The Italian surgeon agreed to perform a highly experimental surgery on Phillips. She'll be the 12th patient in the world to undergo the cutting-edge procedure.

Macchiarini is a professor of regenerative surgery at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. Working with an international team of doctors and researchers in Sweden, Spain and Italy, he has developed a method of growing a replacement trachea, or windpipe, in a laboratory using stem cells extracted from the patient's own body.

The procedure is so new and innovative — the first one made international news when it was performed three years ago in Barcelona — that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has yet to approve it. Unless the FDA OKs it under a "compassionate use" exemption, Macchiarini won't be able to perform the operation in this country, nor can the Phillipses expect Medicaid to pay for it.

Rachel, 34, and her husband, Steven, moved to Burlington four and a half years ago to open a performing arts school. But their plans were derailed when Rachel was diagnosed with a life-threatening condition known as Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, a genetic disorder that afflicts her body's connective tissues.

Since childhood, Phillips has suffered from shortness of breath. For years, family, friends and even doctors chalked it up to the physical demands of professional dancing. However, when Phillips turned 30, "Stuff just started falling apart on me left and right," she recalls. She developed an excruciating headache that has persisted for years. She tore ligaments in her shoulder, developed hip problems and frequently dislocates other joints.

Those ailments are all linked to a hallmark symptom of EDS: extreme hypermobility, or the tendency of limbs and joints to flex beyond their normal range of motion. Ironically, the very physical trait that may have enabled Phillips to become a successful dancer now threatens her life.

That's because Phillips' EDS also causes a condition known as tracheobronchomalacia, which makes her trachea and bronchial airways collapse each time she exhales. As a result, she needs to be on supplemental oxygen at all times. Her service dog, Sienna, is trained to alert Phillips whenever her blood-oxygen levels fall below an acceptable limit.

Phillips, whose dark-brown eyes make her resemble a young Ally Sheedy, doesn't look like a lean and fit ballerina anymore. She wears her once-long black hair much shorter and dyed with a funky blend of purple highlights. On the day we met, she had a brace on one wrist, the result of a recent injury.

Phillips has undergone nine unsuccessful surgeries to try to open her airway. In the last year alone, she's had 31 bronchoscopies and spent a total of 78 days in the hospital.

During one such stay in 2010, Phillips met Daniel Weiss, a pulmonary specialist at Fletcher Allen Health Care. An associate professor in UVM's College of Medicine, Weiss also runs a research lab that received a $4.3 million federal stimulus grant to figure out how to bioengineer lungs using a patient's own stem cells.

Weiss, who organized last week's biennial conference on regenerative medicine, calls organ and tissue regeneration "like science fiction coming to life." Though it's still in its infancy, the field holds enormous promise for patients like Phillips whose organs and tissues have been damaged by age, injury, disease or congenital defects.

It was through Weiss that Phillips first learned of Macchiarini's work. She says it sounded highly theoretical and futuristic — something that might be possible 10 to 15 years down the road. She never imagined she would become a candidate for such a procedure.

Earlier this year, though, Phillips' condition worsened. After she underwent yet another bronchoscopy at a hospital in Boston, Steven says the doctor came out "white as a sheet" and informed them that Rachel's airway, which had been collapsing 50 percent on normal exhalation, was now closing 90 percent on each breath. The membranes in her airway could close entirely and get stuck that way. Since then, it's happened several times.

On June 14, the couple was in Weiss' office when the Vermont doctor had an "aha" moment: One of Macchiarini's colleagues from Stockholm was in town to review Weiss' research.

Macchiarini's colleague consulted with Phillips, reviewed her scans, then sent them to Stockholm. "Dr. Macchiarini saw the bronch," Phillips says; "he saw the collapse and basically said to me, 'I will take your case.'"



MATTHEW THORSEN

Rachel Phillips, Steven Phillips, Paolo Macchiarini and Sienna

While in Burlington last week, Macchiarini, 53, explained why he agreed to treat Phillips — free of charge. "She's a young and beautiful girl who had a beautiful past," he explains in a thick Italian accent. "She deserves to live."

Macchiarini detailed how the procedure works. Essentially, doctors create a matrix or "scaffold" of Phillips' windpipe using either a plastic polymer modeled after her own trachea, or one taken from a cadaver stripped of all its organic cells. That scaffold is then placed in a liquid medium and seeded with cells extracted from Phillips' bone marrow. Within 48 hours, Phillips' stem cells grow a new windpipe over the scaffold. Unlike conventionally transplanted organs, Macchiarini explains, this one won't be rejected by her body or require lifelong immunosuppressant drugs.

What are the odds of success? Of the 11 trachea transplants he's done so far — 10 involving donated tracheas and one using



Rachel Phillips

a synthetic one — Macchiarini said only one patient has died, and that was due to complications unrelated to the surgery. Most patients woke up after the 14- to 19-hour surgery and began breathing normally.

Macchiarini isn't just working on tracheas, either. As a thoracic surgeon, he's also developing regenerative therapies involving the lungs, heart and

already had to fight "tooth and nail" to get many of Rachel's routine medical expenses paid for.

"We feel like we're in that Michael Moore movie," Steven says, referring to the 2007 documentary *Sicko*. "We can save the four fingers that were cut off, but we can't pay for all four of them, so you have to choose which ones you want to lose. We face that literally every two weeks."

THE VERY PHYSICAL TRAIT THAT MAY HAVE ENABLED PHILLIPS TO BECOME A SUCCESSFUL DANCER NOW THREATENS HER LIFE.

esophagus. He hopes to use the patient's body as a "bioreactor" to regenerate damaged organs and tissues in place — without surgery. The stem cells used in these procedures are not the embryonic kind that have aroused opposition from antiabortion activists in the United States and elsewhere.

"We have had, so far, excellent results, especially in patients that have attempted suicide through the ingestion of caustic liquids," he added. "It's not a goal. It's a *dream*... But I don't think we're that far away from that dream." He envisions the procedure will one day be done "in every corner of the world."

By then, maybe sci-fi surgery won't be prohibitively expensive. As if their medical problems weren't enough, the Phillipses also face dire economic challenges. Over the last four years, neither has been able to work. Steven, a minister by training, puts it this way: "Right now my mission is Rachel." Consequently, the couple is tens of thousands of dollars in debt.

Despite the surgeon's generosity, the experimental procedure to save Phillips' life will still cost them about $300,000. Even if it can be done in the United States — Macchiarini is exploring the possibility of performing the historic procedure at Fletcher Allen — Medicaid is unlikely to cover it. Steven says local doctors have

Meanwhile, doctors plan to extract cells from Phillips' bone marrow some time this week in anticipation of a surgery before October. Weiss says that Macchiarini may even try an initial procedure to fix Phillips' airway before opting for a full tracheal transplant. That way, he says, "She now has two potential options, whereas before, she was really looking at a slow, painful death in the not-too-distant future."

"The last three years have just been total hell," adds Phillips, without a trace of self-pity. "Yeah, it's scary to be one of the first people to have this surgery... But if it works for me, it's going to open the door for so many other people."

Yet another miracle may be in the works. According to Dr. Weiss, a regenerative medicine specialist who attended last week's conference asked for a sample of Phillips' bone marrow. His idea, to identify the underlying causes of Phillips' EDS, and then use genetic engineering to correct those cells before they're implanted. If that works, it could cure Phillips' underlying disease, though Weiss cautions that that road could be an even longer one for her.

This former ballerina has pulled off plenty of breathtaking moves in the past. For now she remains quite literally, a woman waiting to exhale. ⑦



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Feedback «P7

Burlington's population, and just to pick a nit: Sandy Dooley, chair of the city council, correctly figures the population increase between 2000 and 2010 at 20 percent [Feedback, "Dooley Responds," July 20]. She calculates from a 2000 census count of 17,894. UVM's Center for Rural Studies reports that the original count of 18,814 was officially reduced.

Andy Bromage, on the other hand, took his 13.2 percent increase from at least one of the census' reports that either overlooks or predates the "correction." Ya gotta keep checkin'.

Fred G Hill
BURLINGTON

ON SECOND THOUGHT...

I would like to amend my comment on Shay Totten's July 13 "Fair Game" column [Feedback, "Lay Off Hospitals," July 20]. Mr. Totten had requested budget submission specifics from the hospitals directly. In my haste to meet the deadline for the next *Seven Days* issue, I had assumed that Mr. Totten had gotten the numbers right. My mistake. Upon further review and discussion, it is clear that both the logic behind his calculations and the conclusions that Mr. Totten draws in his story were way off the mark. Vermont hospitals have a good story to tell and the public hearing on August 4 should prove to be very educational.

Bea Grause
EAST MONTPELIER
Grause is president and CEO of the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems.

NEXT TIME, TRY FACT-CHECKING

Regarding David Ellenbogen's ad hominem attack on me in your July 27 Feedback section ["Health Care Hack?"], where do I begin? First, had Ellenbogen — and *Seven Days* — bothered to check the secretary of state's website, he'd find I have never been a "(paid) advocate (some might say hack) for health insurance companies in Vermont." Never. Ever. (Unlike Shumlin's BISHCA Commissioner Steve Kimball, who was for a long time paid to lobby for health insurers and hospitals.)

Second, if Ellenbogen had more carefully read my blog (vtreform.wordpress.com), he'd recognize I'm not "an opponent of single-payer health care." I do explain federal impediments making it impossible to do this in one state. I argue our focus should be cost containment. I've tried (and failed) to get the legislature and governors to prove to taxpayers that state government can successfully manage a government-run health plan (e.g., Medicaid, Catamount). I've quoted Physicians for a National Health Program saying federal impediments preclude a state implementing single payer. I reported that Commissioner Kimball said Vermont will never get a waiver to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, single payer is impossible without it.

Third, I don't have an "organization;" I have a consulting business and a blog. And, yes, it has been sponsored by a company that pools small businesses to provide people like Mr. Ellenbogen with access to more affordable health insurance so he doesn't have to be uninsured. That is the key to understanding me. I work for purchasers of insurance, not insurance companies. I worked for passage of the mental health parity law. I have fought against Medicaid cost shifting. I've been hired by the League of Cities and Towns to challenge rate increases from CIGNA and Blue Cross. I've done the same for the State Employee Health Plan and for numerous employers in Vermont. Ask CIGNA, Blue Cross and MVP if they consider me their advocate. Not likely. The only insurer I ever worked for was Kaiser, which hired me to do its first compliance review for the state's managed-care requirements — in 1998!

My message to Shay Totten was that the trumpeting about hospital budgets being contained, given the exceptions that will be granted, is going to mislead the public into thinking their insurance rates won't be going up more than a few percentage points. After the allowed exceptions, the "net revenue" increase being reported is an artifact, a made-up number. The hospitals still need to be paid the full increase. And because of the cost shift, government payers won't be helping to pay any increase.

So, hospitals will increase the rates they charge to your insurance by much more than 4 percent. (Their filings ask for 5 to 11 percent rate increases.) And the insurance company will pass that increase on to Mr. Ellenbogen, whose premiums will go up. But Mr. Ellenbogen heard the Shumlin folks brag that costs were contained at under 4 percent. Boy, will he be mad! (You can see a chart of the requested hospital rate increases on my blog.)

And who will be blamed, Shay asked Shumlin? The hospitals? No, I replied, the insurers will be blamed. The messengers will be killed. Does that make me a "hack" for the insurers? Or was I actually trying to help Mr. Ellenbogen? You be the judge.

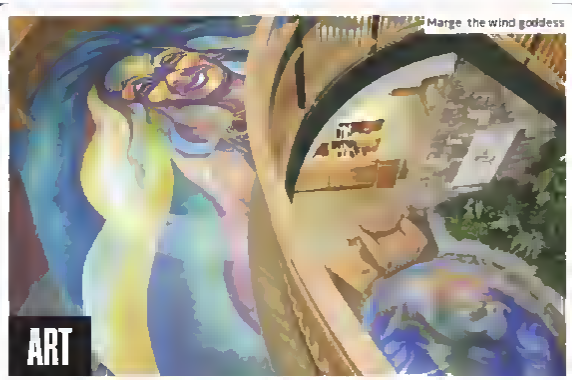
I do wish the name calling could stop. And fact-checking would begin. This is far too serious a public policy issue to be handled this way.

Jeanne Keller
BURLINGTON


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NESTEA. THE YES TEA.

NRG Systems Art Collection Takes on a Life of Its Own

BY MEGAN JAMES



Marge the wind goddess

COURTESY OF JANET DURRANCE

The employees at NRG Systems, an international producer of wind-measurement technology have it made Their Hinesburg offices off Route 116 offer loads of places to hang out with coworkers or get cozy with a book. In their ski lodge-inspired dining hall, lunch is catered four times a week — and smells delicious on a recent visit. Employees pick up their mail from beautiful salvaged bronze post office boxes each with its own little antique key And they're surrounded by a thoughtfully curated art collection that's expanding every year.

We're not talking corporate art bolted to the walls, rather, this is unusual work, mostly by Vermont artists, in places you might not expect it. A miniature clay circus procession by Montpelier artist **DELIA RORINSON**, for example, separates one workspace from an internal thoroughfare The focal point is a big-top stage hosting various acts, each with its own sign. "A very small husband!" "Two women wearing the same dress!" "Snakes!" Each clay piece — the tightrope walkers, acrobats, elephant cow hybrids — is a functioning whistle

The eclectic collection belongs to CEO and president **JAN BLITTERSDORF** and for the past seven years it's been curated — and some of it created — by Blittersdorf's art consultant, **SARAH-LEE TERRAT**. The Waterbury artist and proprietor of **YELODOG DESIGN** is best known for her murals, which adorn the Vermont Children's Hospital and the outside wall of the Daily Planet, among many other places.

In 2003, when Blittersdorf and Wartsfield architect **WILLIAM MACLAY** were brainstorming plans for the first of the two LEED-certified buildings the company now occupies they knew the place had to offer more than sleek environmental design. 'Let's make sure it's a nice place to work, too," Blittersdorf recalls saying.

So they put out a call to artists through the **VERMONT ARTS COUNCIL**. They weren't sure exactly what they wanted but they liked the idea of incorporating some arty and wind-themed design into the polished-concrete floors.

"A lot of corporate art to me is just not very inspiring," says Blittersdorf. 'I had no interest in the silly motivational posters you see I wanted something different.' And she knew that, though the collection would live in the NRG buildings she would buy it all herself. "It felt to me cleaner and crisper to just do it on my own, rather than to figure out how to justify it as a business expense somehow," she says

When Terrat came in for an interview, Blittersdorf says, "It was clear to me that she was the one. I liked her approach. She was very open to having it open ended" And Terrat ran with the assignment. Not only did she create 11 concrete discs for the floor, each depicting a different scene from the long history of humans harnessing wind power, but she also adorned other floor areas throughout the building with images of the sun, Earth and more. On the floor of an upstairs "library," Terrat painted a benevolent wind goddess, cheekily referred to as "Marge" by NRG employees.

Next came the walls. Blittersdorf had planned on curating them herself. "I was gradually going around to art shows and picking stuff out," she says. "But at the rate I was going, these walls were going to be empty for a long time."

So she passed that responsibility to Terrat as well Now, thanks to devoted gallery scouring, the two buildings hold 100-plus pieces by more than 60 artists including Mad River Valley photographer **AMALIA VERALLI GRACE** artists **MERRILL DENSMORE** and **LARRY BISSONNETTE** — the latter was recently featured in the film *Wretches & Jabberers* — Montpelier painter **FRANK WODDS** and many others.

When NRG constructed its second building in 2008, Blittersdorf called on Terrat once again to enhance the floors. The builders left 70 cube-shaped holes in the concrete surfaces that she was asked to fill This time Terrat enlisted the help of Montpelier artist **CAROLYN SHAPIRO** to create cubes of resin, into which the two submerged various found objects arranged with provocative quotations

Why Shapiro? "I knew she wasn't afraid of power tools or explosive chemicals," says Terrat with a smile. Neither of them had worked with resins before. "We nearly set my basement on fire," says Terrat But it was well worth the risk.

The resulting "Chiclets,' as Terrat calls them, dot the floors throughout the West Building like mysterious time capsules. In one, a piece of white fabric, a black sweatband and a pair of sleek sunglasses are arranged to look like the face of an Arab man in a headdress. A quotation from the former prime minister of the United Arab Emirates appears where the man's mouth would be "My grandfather rode a camel, my father rode a camel, I drive a Mercedes, my son drives a Land Rover, his son will drive a Land Rover, but his son will ride a camel."

Art for the (Recessionary) Ages

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

In a startling show on the second floor of its Church Street gallery, **BURLINGTON CITY ARTS** is presenting a mini-retrospective of the work of **LEWIS RURENSTEIN** a versatile and skillful painter who died in Vermont in 2003.

Curator **CNRIS TNDMPSON** says he knew immediately he wanted to organize the exhibit once a BCA board member acquainted him with Rubenstein's depictions of Depression-era workers. The parallels — and contrasts — to today's Great Recession are striking, Thompson notes ' Rubenstein was documenting what was going on in his time, while now we're trying to ignore what's going on," the curator comments. He describes the current dislocation and destitution of millions of Americans as "a silent train wreck.'

The pieces hung on the Church Street side of the gallery are products of Rubenstein's wanderings around working-class America, à la another great but much more celebrated American artist. Woody Guthrie.

Following his graduation from Harvard in 1930, Rubenstein composed these expressive drawings, watercolors and lithographs of miners, gleaners, foundry laborers and shipyard workers. They reveal him to be a superb draftsman able to achieve anatomically exact representations of subjects in complicated poses.

Rubenstein was clearly well trained in the European classical tradition He even learned how to paint Renaissance-style frescoes during a sojourn in Italy applying that knowledge in a mural created for what's now the conservation center at Harvard's Fogg Art Museum Its imagery is based on what Rubenstein saw while taking part in a "hunger march" in Washington in 1932.

In an essay he wrote in 1974, Rubenstein says his work actually "comes out of a personal fusion of two traditions — European and Far Eastern" One piece in particular in the BCA Center's "Legacy" show — the calligraphic and scroll like "Mining Town" — vividly highlights his interest in Chinese and Japanese art

The Asian influence explodes into view in selections from the "Creation" series on display in the gallery's rear room. Visitors will be stunned by the brilliantly colored ink and wash paintings executed in the Japanese sumi e technique and inspired by biblical passages from Genesis and the Psalms.

In this radical shift away from realism, Rubenstein seeks to convey nothing less than the birth of the universe A couple of these improvisations have an uncanny resemblance to photos of pulsars and supernovas taken through the Hubble space telescope Thangis, Rubenstein composed these works starting in 1981 — a decade prior to Hubble's launch.

Although this grouping of abstractions does qualify as what Thompson calls "works of pure process," the "Creation" compositions can be deciphered as depictions of what their titles denote A viewer will readily recognize the fires and floods referred to in the adjoining labels.

A BCA-produced catalog serves to acquaint Vermonters with an artist little known here or pretty much anywhere beyond the campus of Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where Rubenstein taught for almost 30 years. He spent the last 10 of his 94 years at the Wake Robin retirement community in Shelburne mainly because it is close to the home of his daughter, Emily Morrow, and within

In Chiclets near the downstairs bathroom, you'll find Shakespearean verse beside Rage Against the Machine lyrics. Another one features a quotation from Terrat's son, Henry Woodard, when he was 6. Beside a tiny worry doll standing against a swirling background of shiny blue paper, the inscription reads, "I thought I was big ... until I saw the universe."

Most of what goes on in a research-and-development office upstairs is top secret — but not the work of art placed above eye level on a nearby wall. It's an installation by central Vermont artist **JANET VAN FLEET** called "Music of the Spheres," composed of assorted discs, including buttons and 45s, arranged on wire fencing. In Van Fleet's wildest dreams, Terrat explains, a constantly shifting light would illuminate the discs, sending shadows subtly rotating around the wall. An NRG engineer is working on making that happen.

> A LOT OF CORPORATE ART TO ME IS JUST NOT VERY INSPIRING. I WANTED SOMETHING DIFFERENT.
>
> JAN BLITTERSDORF, NRG SYSTEMS CEO

The next big project in the works? In the second-floor walkway that connects the two buildings, Terrat, Shapiro and **ANNE LIKA** are creating an educational installation on migratory birds inspired by Blittersdorf's involvement with the American Wind Wildlife Institute, an organization that works to facilitate wind-energy development while protecting the surrounding wildlife.

Not everyone appreciates all the art — and that's the point, says Terrat. "Art is supposed to provoke," she suggests. A **HAL MAYFORTH** painting of a flaming skull in the West Café, for example, reportedly freaks out NRG's chef. Some people are spooked by an elongated figure by David Adix made of keys, paper clips, forks and other junk. Others love it.

For Blittersdorf, collecting art isn't just about creating a nice environment for her employees, it's about sustaining local artists. In Vermont, she says, "people come out and look at art, but they very rarely open their wallets and buy the art ... if [artists] are going to keep creating this important work, they need to support themselves. That's what inspired me to start collecting and start actually paying for it." ⑦



Fore river shipyard detail

driving distance of the Ottawa home of his son, Daniel Rubenstein.

"Legacy" includes in its front room a few Champlain Valley landscapes. To many observers they might be the least interesting works in the show because their subject matter is more familiar, their impressionist style more predictable.

Thompson says he chose to hang "Legacy" on the second floor because that's where "more subtle shows" are typically presented. The gallery's ground floor is reserved for larger-scale, installation-focused works that are more likely to "reel in" passersby, Thompson explains.

However, those who climb the stairs or ride the elevator to see what Rubenstein wrought will likely find it worthwhile. Hurry, though — the show remains up only until August 13. ⑦

Lewis Rubenstein: "Legacy." Second Floor Gallery, BCA Center, Burlington. Info, 865-7166, burlingtoncityarts.org





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Daar Cecil,
Hand sanitizer dispensers have been appearing in restrooms in my area. Recently, my employer installed one in tha men's room near the sink. It's unclear to me if it's intandad as a substitute for hand washing or a supplement. Would you please enlighten your reeders concerning the proper use of this stuff? Whila you're at it, doas hand sanitizer raally work, or is it just a fad?
Tom Meyer, Mercerville, N.J.



You've got a point. Nobody really knows how to use hand sanitizer. Proper labeling should be mandated by OSHA, the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the World Bank. Knowing how slowly bureaucracies work, however, I've drawn up the following emergency instructions. The hand sanitizer industry should feel free to post this above every dispenser, so that the public may be informed.

"HAND SANITIZER — INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

"1. To use: (a) Squirt product on hands. (b) Rub together until dry. (c) Stop.

"2. The idea is that the sanitizer will evaporate without rinsing or towels, making it possible to rid your hands of germs when there's no bathroom in the vicinity. Studies say this stuff works as well as soap and water. However, we aren't claiming it works *better* than soap and water (or anyway most of us aren't, see below). In other words, if you're a corporate facilities manager putting hand sanitizer in the washrooms next to the sinks, you're unclear on the concept, schmuck.

"3. Seriously, Lady Macbeth, quit rubbing. You're making us nervous.

"4. Sanitizing your hands is different from cleaning them. If you're covered with grime after changing the crankshaft on the Maserati, you're going to want soap. As it happens, the maker of Purell, the leading hand sanitizer, also makes a grease-cutting semiliquid soap called GoJo that's popular with mechanics. In short, our industry is there for you regardless of your hand-cleansing needs.

"5. Some may think hand sanitizer is solving a nonexistent problem. We beg to differ. Suppose you're a politician. We saw a story in the *New York Times* about one enthusiastic public servant who shook 13,392 hands in eight hours. God knows how many of those hands were attached to people with colds, the flu or amoebic dysentery. This individual has good reason to use hand sanitizer. Heck, we could make decent money supplying product just to him.

"6. If you have the feeling that bugs are crawling all over your body, hand sanitizer is not what you need. Nor, most likely, are tweezers and a little box.

"7. Another place where hand sanitizer has its uses is in hospitals. An all-too-common problem in hospitals is you go in with one ailment, catch a different one, and die. Studies have shown that a rigorous program of hygiene by hospital staff including use of hand sanitizer between patients significantly reduces so-called nosocomial infections.

"8. Isn't that a great word, *nosocomial*? Doctors could just say 'hospital caused.' However, everybody would know then what they meant.

"9. Getting back to our subject, let's suppose you're not a politician, health care worker, portapotty user, primary school teacher or other high-risk individual. Do you still need to use hand sanitizer? In our opinion, yes, because we're turning a very nice profit here. The hand sanitizer business has grown from next to nothing in the 1990s to a projected $400 million annually by 2015. So what if this nation's heavy manufacturing capability, by and large, has been exported to Asia? We can all make hand sanitizer instead.

"10. Chances are this product contains alcohol — generally 120 proof and up. It's not, however, the kind of alcohol you're supposed to drink. If you do anyway, and we know from the medical journals that some are tempted, be aware that chugging a 450-milliliter bottle is a ticket to the ICU.

"11. If you want to get into dueling research papers, you can make the argument (as our colleagues at Purell do) that hand sanitizer kills germs that soap and water do not. It's also true that alcohol-based sanitizers are ineffectual against some bugs, such as the one that causes botulism. Therefore, logically you should use both sanitizer and soap, and this may in fact be worth doing if you're about to perform open-heart surgery. However, let's be blunt. The chief driver of hand sanitizer popularity isn't medical necessity but fear. Big spikes in sales typically stem from media-fueled paranoia about the epidemic du jour, such as the 2009 panic over H1N1 flu. Sales rose 70 percent, even though the average American's chances of getting the disease were less than one in a million.

"12. Then again, if you feel the need to sanitize every time you touch a doorknob — and we're looking at you, Mr. or Ms. border-line compulsive who wants dispensers installed in the subway — don't expect us to say you can't."

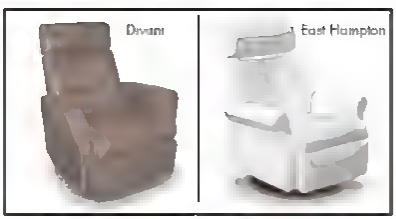
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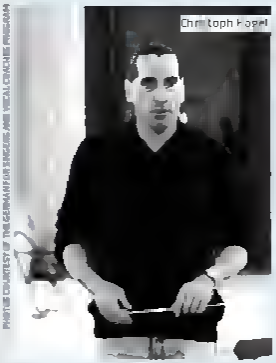

Christoph Hagel

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GERMAN FOR SINGERS AND VOCAL COACHES PROGRAM

Christoph Hagel isn't afraid to take risks. The German opera director once put on a monthlong run of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* in an unused subway station in Berlin. He choreographed a hip-hop ballet to Bachs *Well-Tempered Clavier*, a production that won him the ECHO special award in classical music, the German equivalent of a Grammy. This summer, he's directing an opera in Vermont.

OK, that last one isn't so risky, but it's certainly ambitious. In many American small towns, it would be difficult to scrounge up an entire cast of professional singers who are also proficient in German. But not in Middlebury, where each summer students from classical music programs across the country come together for Middlebury Colleges one-of-a-kind German for Singers and Vocal Coaches program.

This weekend, for the first time in the program's 12-year history, the students will present a full opera performance — well, slightly abridged: it runs about 80 minutes — of Mozart's *Die Falsche Gärtnerin (The Pretend Garden Girl)* at Middlebury's **TOWN HALL THEATER** and the **VERGENNES OPERA HOUSE**. Mozart originally wrote the work in Italian and called it *La Finta Giardiniera*, but converted it into a German singspiel five years later.

The opera tells the story of a young woman named Sandrina who, after a violent fight with her lover, disguises herself as a gardener to escape her past — and her boyfriend. She ends up entangled in even more complicated love triangles before finally reconciling with her former beloved.


Die Falsche Gartnerin rehearsal

Program director **BETTINA MATTHIAS**, who met Hagel two years ago while she was doing research in Germany for her German-for-singers textbook, is excited about his interpretation of the opera. "He's a really hot item in Germany right now," she adds.

Here in Vermont, Hagel's production will be fully staged, yet simple. Singers will all wear the same color and perform on a spare set. "For him, it's all about the music," says Matthias. ⑦

MEGAN JAMES

DIE FALSCHE GÄRTNERIN
Performed by students in the Middlebury Language Schools' German for Singers and Vocal Coaches program. Friday, August 5, 8 p.m., at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury, and Saturday, August 6, 8 p.m., at the Vergennes Opera House. $15. townhalltheater.org

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Coup d'Etat

I file this column before August 2, when the US Congress will or will not have plunged the nation's economy, and the world's, deliberately into chaos for the second time in three years.

But whether or not that catastrophe is averted, the main event is already under way: a radical right-wing coup d'état.

This takeover is abetted by a Democratic president either too deluded to see that his adversaries are a horde of gray-suited Huns or too weak to hold the barbarians from the gates.

(Just to be clear, because the rest of the media is not: The debt ceiling is not related to current budgeting. The law requires the federal government to raise the ceiling whenever necessary to meet obligations that have already been incurred to pay for government functions that Congress has already approved and is executing. Months ago, the president could have refused to link the debt ceiling to budget talks. Needless to say, he did not.)

In an account pieced together from sources who, fearing retribution, have asked to remain unnamed, the scenario is unfolding as follows:

John Boehner drives up to the White House in a Hummer with a toy gun and Grover Norquist in a ski mask. The president declines to ask the Secret Service to escort the visitors out. He does not text his lieutenant in the Senate, who at last report still controls the majority. Instead, the Great Compromiser hands over the hostage — the full faith and credit of the government of the United States of America — and asks Mr. Speaker if he can offer him anything else for the road.

The Speaker, wiping a grateful tear from his eye, thanks the president and tells him he'll get back to him. But the president, gracious guy that he is, packs the Speaker off with a favor bag anyway. It includes a few billion pretty green dollars chipped from the fixed incomes of elderly poor people, and other nice things. He asks Joe Biden to carry the package to the Speaker's car.

Back on the Hill, House Republicans are already partying down, inviting their corporate pals in to loot the Treasury, plunder the nation's natural resources and pillage its institutions.

Majority members on the House Energy and Commerce Committee are hauling buckets of pharmaceutical-industry-provided saline solution into the chamber to drown FDA regulations of potentially harmful medical devices.

The GOP is loading 39 amendments into the Interior Department's appropriations bill prohibiting the Environmental Protection Agency from protecting the environment. Tea Party freshmen are tossing small endangered creatures onto the barbeque, while others dance the hora with coal industry lobbyists.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS ARE ALREADY PARTYING DOWN, INVITING THEIR CORPORATE PALS IN TO LOOT THE TREASURY, PLUNDER THE NATION'S NATURAL RESOURCES AND PILLAGE ITS INSTITUTIONS.



Members chortle as the Federal Aviation Administration sulks away unauthorized and the Treasury starts losing $25 million a day in airline tax revenue. Nevada Republican Joe Heck volunteers a Las Vegas casino to take bets on the date and location of the first in-air collision.

Four days before a US government default, the House deadlocks over Boehner's slash-and-burn bill because it contains $9 billion of waste, fraud and abuse, in the form of Pell Grants for college students.

Naomi Klein calls this the Shock Doctrine. Take advantage of economic crisis, natural disaster or war to fundamentally rewrite the rules in favor of the wealthy and the powerful. If there isn't a real crisis, create one.

True to Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell's pledge, the GOP is ensuring that Barack Obama is a one-term president — by any means necessary.

If the country crashes, Michele Bachmann could be our next president.

Finally, the resistance mobilizes. A reported 200 protesters gather outside the White House and — I am not making this up — sing "This Land Is Your Land." Moveon.com launches yet another emergency fundraising drive (the Shock Doctrine is useful for everyone).

In Vermont, agripreneurs keep the revolution going, plowing federal grants into biodiesel and cheese-aging projects. Small businesses pick up their flood-relief checks from FEMA, procured over initial agency rejections by a diligent Washington delegation. Drivers slow down at bridge-repair sites paid for by federal stimulus funds.

In Hardwick, a Transition Town meeting is called. But many regulars may not be able to make it because they are busy harvesting beans and herbs from their bursting gardens.

On Vermont Public Radio's "Vermcot Edition," Democratic U.S. Rep. Peter Welch recites actual facts and proposes actual solutions to the nation's actual problems. Hearing this rational voice emanating from Washington (or is it a computer-generated facsimile?), listeners call in to express incredulity and exasperation that what is happening is happening.

Some callers respectfully allow that they didn't vote for the congressman. How many of those FEMA grant recipients did? How many enterprising locavores — or any Vermonters — read a national paper, even once a week? How long do we think our Edenic way of life will endure without federal regulations and an influx of federal dollars to the state's treasury?

When I was in my twenties, I used to wish for an overthrow of the state. In its place would rise a million workers' collectives, which would put the bosses on the assembly lines, eliminate profits and reduce the workweek to about six hours. In the towns and neighborhoods, people's councils would teach nonviolence and dispense compassionate justice. Kids would collaborate with teachers to run the nursery schools and universities. The troops would come home and their swords would be beaten into ploughshares, which would be distributed to community gardeners. Contraceptives, bicycles, housing and ice cream would be free.

It was called anarchism, a socialist dream of a stateless state governed directly by the people. I still hold it in my deepest fantasist's heart.

But now we are staring into the face of anarchy, and it is funny how good that square old U.S. Constitutional system — compromised, corrupt and corporatized as it is — is starting to look. Things will not be better if it falls. Do what you can to save it.

Poli Psy' is a twice monthly column by Judith Levine. Got a comment on this story? Contact levine@sevendaysvt.com

WHISKEY TANGO FOXTROT

We just had to ask...

Why does Buddha gaze upon Pine Street traffic?

BY ERIK ESCKILSEN



COURTESY OF ERIK ESCKILSEN

Who better than Buddha himself to tell a forlorn Little Leaguer — or a hypercompetitive parent — that it's not whether you win or lose that counts but how you play the game?

That wasn't artist Ron Hernandez's agenda when he painted the Awakened One's portrait in a gentle palette of airbrushed hues on the side of a Burlington Electric Department storage building. But a sudden reminder of the bigger picture may be what some people experience as they pull away from Burlington's Calahan Park and head west down Locust Street toward Pine — that is, if they can get past the question "WTF?"

The mural has covered the entire east-facing side of the red brick building at the Locust-Pine Street intersection since 2004. That's when Hernandez approached BED with his proposal to prettify the utility's ugly outbuilding with something more in keeping with the South End's artsy, peace-loving vibe. According to Hernandez, BED had no problem with the idea so long as the mural didn't convey a strong message. "I was fine with that," Hernandez says. "I didn't think it needed to be a big deal."

The artist's inspiration, however, was a big deal: the onset of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. "I just wanted people to think," Hernandez says. "Buddha's basic message was 'Nothing is perfect, but you do the best you can.'" The artist points to Buddha's eyes — slightly lopsided — as an illustration of the point. "It just conveys peace. I'm not out to change anybody's lives," he adds.

Nor was Hernandez out to promote a particular religion. His own faith, he says, is mainly connected to old Mother Earth. Buddha did strike him, though, as the most peaceful of the familiar religious icons, and one who fit the shape of his "canvas." "The building is perfect for a face," he says. "It just calls out, 'Hey!'"

Or is that "Om"?

For a year, BED and Buddha coexisted in harmony, but in 2005, Hernandez's addition to the building's north wall generated resistance — though not the kind that can be measured in ohms. Hernandez had adorned that side of the building with a tsunami of flowers crashing on images of war, such as barbed wire, guns and armed soldiers. "That kind of got squashed," he recalls. "I guess one of [BED's] biggest customers at the time was General Electric, just around the corner. They didn't like me dissing the profit-making war."

The late Peter Freyne chronicled the censorship in his "Inside Track" column in *Seven Days*. In Freyne's dispatch, BED general manager Barbara Grimes is quoted as saying the decision to make Hernandez alter his imagery originated in a complaint from an unspecified "ratepayer." Her own reported assessment of the wave mural: "inappropriate."

Hernandez, as if drawing inspiration from his east-looking subject, obliged without much fuss, although he admits he was "upset" about having to change his work. "I didn't want to make a big deal out of it, because that's not my nature," he says. "I just painted over it." Today, the north wall features a wave of flowers descending on planet Earth, itself seemingly encircled by a hurricane. The south wall depicts a similar wave. If the building were Buddha's head, the wave crests would form his ears.

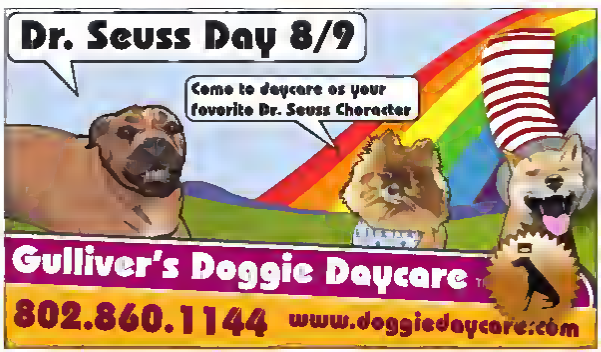
Hernandez's Buddha may surprise some passersby, but his works are already fixtures of Vermont's public spaces. He created the panoramic mural "Pan of the Seasons" on the ceiling of Main Street Landing's third floor and murals for various other businesses and institutions, including the University of Vermont and the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier. An especially popular mural depicting an array of endangered species graces a wall of the Burlington Skinny Pancake on Lake Street.

Hernandez's admirers even include the elementary-school set, though they may not recognize his handiwork in the themed scenery at Pizza Putt in South Burlington, including the outer-space images done in black-light paint in the laser-tag room. Tourists who get a chuckle out of the sculpture of Champ, the Lake Champlain monster, standing sentry by the King Street ferry dock can thank Hernandez for the creature's gleaming green scales. A graduate of New York's School of Visual Arts, the artist has displayed his work as far afield as Panama and Key West, Fla.

Select pieces that Hernandez created in the 1960s and '70s were on display at the Skinny Pancake all last month. On July 31, they left to make way for an exhibit of his new work. Check it out through August, or browse a virtual gallery of his art at airbrushron.com.

When he's not making art on-site or in his Battery Street studio, Hernandez holsters his swords-into-plowshares creds by tilling the land at Stray Cat Flower Farm, the Intervale flower farm owned by his wife, Diana Doll. "There's a lot of color in our lives," he says. ⑦

Outraged or merely curious about something? Send your burning question to wtf@sevendaysvt.com.





Transit Story

A Vermont author rolls out a new book about an old bus company

BY LEON THOMPSON



Sylvia Nichols Allen snuggles under a light-blue afghan on her leather recliner, offering a stark contrast with the photo of herself on the wall overhead. In the portrait, taken just before Christmas last year in her Essex home, Allen, 64, is standing with her husband of 20 years, Michel, 67. Waves of strawberry-blond hair frame her grinning face.

Now Allen is 30 pounds lighter. Despite the midsummer heat, she's dressed for winter in gray corduroy pants and two shirts. A pink cloth covers her bare head. On January 2, a doctor diagnosed Allen with stage IV nonsmoker's lung cancer, just days after a CAT scan revealed several small tumors on her lungs. Quickly, the cancer metastasized to her spine and brain.

That isn't stopping Allen from talking about her first book, *The People Will Be Served: A History of the Vermont Transit Bus Company*. Self-published via Amazon's CreateSpace, it's the only complete written history of VTC, a public transportation staple from 1929 to 2005, when Greyhound absorbed it.

"It takes a tremendous amount of effort to promote a book," Allen concedes. "And now that mine is out, I don't have the energy for it. It's more than I can do."

I FEEL LIKE I'VE DONE A SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTED SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY AND VERMONT HISTORY.

SYLVIA NICHOLS ALLEN

She was unsure she would live to see *The People Will Be Served*.

Allen survived breast cancer twice in 2000, undergoing two mastectomies, but lung cancer is harder, she notes. Instead of offering a prognosis, doctors told her she would need a debilitating treatment every three weeks for the rest of her life. She has no appetite and little strength, but feels no pain.

"The book helps keep my spirits up," Allen says. "I'm very proud of it. I feel like I've done a service and contributed something important to society and Vermont history."

Allen says she harbored the desire to write a book over the 25 years that she served as the Harwood Union High School librarian, but always imagined it would be fiction. After she retired in 2005, Allen started her own business, Senior Companion Services, which offered assistance and company to the elderly. And that's how, in 2008, she met Charlie Irish and finally found a subject for her book.

Irish, who was in his nineties when he died in 2009, worked his way up from VTC clerk in 1941 to president in 1975. When Allen visited him at Shelburne Bay Senior Living, Irish regaled her with stories about the bus company — its history, its colorful staff and its simple, homegrown business philosophy: "The people will be served."

Allen, an Enosburg Falls native with family still in the area, rode VTC buses from Burlington to Clemson University in South Carolina during her freshman year of college, so she had firsthand experience with the company. (She ended up graduating from Johnson State College with a history degree in 1969.)

"I felt that somebody needed to tell a history of the company because, in a few years, everyone would forget about it," Allen says. "So I started bringing a notepad and pen when I went to see Charlie.

"He was a wonderful man, so gentle and polite," she continues. "I told him he was my second father."

From 2008 to 2010, Allen gathered information on VTC founder William S. Appleyard, whom she applauds for fostering a "culture of family" in his company. She also sifted through materials at the Vermont Historical Society and conducted nearly 20 extensive interviews with past VTC employees, including some who worked there in the early years.

"That was the most fun I had with this book," Allen says. "They're entertaining as hell, the salt of the earth. There are few old-time Vermonters like them around anymore."

Allen also spent hours and hours in the Williston basement of Ken Bessette Jr., whose father was a VTC driver for 42 years and a tour guide for eight. Bessette has all the scrapbooks and notebooks filled with his father's writings about VTC. Those include memories of the company he relayed in a regular column, "I Remember When..," that he wrote for the *Williston Whistle* (now the *Williston Observer*) until his death in 1995.

Ken Bessette Sr. never finished high school, and "his spelling and grammar were atrocious," Allen says, but he was a master storyteller — so much so that Allen filled the last chapter of her book with Bessette's lively, engaging anecdotes about VTC.

"He loved Vermont," Allen observes. "He loved Vermont history and knew so much about all the towns."

Now Allen wants to help Ken Bessette Jr. collect his father's works and donate them to the Vermont Historical Society.

"That's really valuable historical material," she says. "But that's for when I'm feeling better."

Allen says she has to look ahead.

"I try not to think about it a whole lot," she says of her illness. "I'm most dismayed by watching my family and husband go through all of this ... but I'm not afraid of dying.

"No matter what," she adds, "I'm leaving a story that had to be told." ⑦

The People Will Be Served: A History of the Vermont Transit Bus Company by Sylvia Nichols Allen is available online through Amazon and locally at Barnes & Noble in South Burlington, Phoenix Books in Essex and Northshire Bookstore in Manchester Center. $14.95.

TICKET TO RIDE, VERMONT-STYLE

In her book *The People Will Be Served: A History of the Vermont Transit Bus Company*, Essex author Sylvia Nichols Allen has made her legacy the much-deserved preservation of another one.

Despite the textbook tone which Allen says she used for historical purposes, *The People Will Be Served* evenly mixes information and anecdote, relying heavily on the latter via the stories of the late Charlie Irish, former Vermont Transit president, whom Allen befriended in 2008.

The author dedicates the book to Irish and storyteller Ken Bessette Sr., a longtime Vermont Transit employee. Lively excerpts from Bessette's decades of personal writings about the company color the last chapter.

In the first two-thirds of *The People Will Be Served*, Allen thoroughly lays out the history of the bus company, from its beginnings with strict businessman and founder William Appleyard through its 2008 sale to Greyhound, which ushered in unionization, corporate mentality and, ultimately, the demise of Vermont Transit, in Allen's view.

She peppers the book with fascinating historical photos and memorabilia, including decades-old Vermont Transit ads, route schedules and maps.

"Vermont Transit started as a company that was a family where the employees were always treated fairly and everyone was thinking about the customer first," Allen says. "That doesn't happen today. It stopped happening at Vermont Transit, and Vermont Transit is no more."

It's time to buy a house!

We can help you put the pieces together.



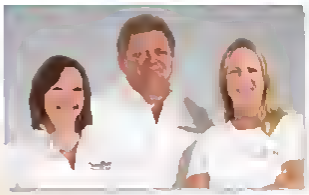
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Resurrecting Hops

Vermont brewers watch and wait as local growers try to create an industry

BY CORIN HIRSCH



Ian Birkett (in black), his dad Joe Birkett (in glasses) and Fletcher Bach operate Square Nail Hops Farm in Ferrisburgh

One day late last fall, Ian Birkett was biking in the Northeast Kingdom when he came across a vine that had grown up into the trees around it, covered in tiny cones that were turning brown. Birkett recognized the plant immediately; he dug up some of its roots and sprinted the cutting back to the Ferrisburgh farm his family has owned since 1802.

It was a wild cluster hop plant, a centuries-old varietal that yields the papery, aromatic and bitter cones used to flavor and preserve beer. Birkett, 26, planted the cutting alongside other year-old hops growing at his Square Nail Hops Farm. As his business partner, Fletcher Bach, points out, "It survived for 200 years in the woods so it must be pretty hardy."

This 300-acre farm with a sagging dairy barn and expansive views is home to 800 hop plants. From afar they look almost alien, a neat grid of fuzzy green bines inching up twine toward the sky.

Bach and Birkett met last year at Shelburne's Village Wine and Coffee, where they both work. "Ian was a farmer," says Bach, 23. "And both of us had a passion for beer." Bach, a home brewer, was growing hops from rhizomes, and the Birkett family farm was lying dormant, awaiting new life. Through research, Birkett and Bach learned that Vermont was once a major exporter of hops, the perennial vine used to blanket Vermont fields in the 1800s, yet all but vanished by the early 20th century.

As they observed the ongoing rise of local craft brewers, Bach and Birkett surmised that growing organic hops could be both profitable and symbiotic with evolving local food culture. And they became part of a movement that has attracted everyone from academic researchers to adventurous brewmasters.

The two ordered 50 varied rhizomes, including popular varieties such as Centennial, Chinook and Cascade. They felled cedar trees to make 16-foot support poles, strung galvanized steel cable between them and tied up perpendicular coir on which the hop bines could grow.

They soon learned that the hop plant, though it loves to grow, requires constant vigilance. The plants are highly temperamental and susceptible to mildew, blight and a raft of insects.

As Bach and Birkett were tilling their first row, they unearthed square nails that had been left in the soil by Birkett's forebears — hence the farm's name. "It's family history, and the new history that we are creating, is an important part of this place, and our goal is for place to come through in the beer," says Bach, evoking the concept of terroir, or taste of place.

In a beer, that taste can derive from local water and technique, but certainly from hops, too. Break open a fresh, squishy hop flower and you'll see — and smell — a handful of tiny, bright-yellow sacs. These are lupulin glands that contain both alpha acids and aromatic oils that lend beer bitterness and flavor. The plants higher in alpha acids are bittering hops, prized by brewers; others, lower in acid and more aromatic, can have flavors ranging from citrus and fruit to grass, pine and spice.

Hundreds of hop varieties have developed naturally or been bred over time, with various yields and flavor profiles. Hop plants like good drainage and lots of sunshine, which is why they flourish in places such as Oregon and Washington. That's where the vast majority of American hops come from, they're pressed into concentrated pellets.

As they watched their first crop to see what thrived here, Bach and Birkett were reclaiming a piece of Vermont's agricultural history. In the 1800s, Vermont was the second-largest producer in the country behind New York.

"There's not one story of hops in Vermont. It's a combination of many different stories in one state," says Adam Krakowski, who recently earned his master's degree in historic preservation from the University of Vermont. He's also wrapping up a year of studying hops for the Vermont Historical Society.

Krakowski became enchanted by the plant's history when he came across an old hop house in Derby during a state historic-barn census. The first hop reached these shores in 1629, but it took more than a century for it to take hold as a commercial crop. Hops "exploded" in Vermont between 1840 and 1850, says Krakowski, just as the merino wool trade was collapsing. The greatest concentration of hop yards was along the Connecticut River and in the Northeast Kingdom — in particular, Orleans and Windsor counties. By 1860, Vermont was producing about 640,000 pounds of hops per year.

Krakowski surmises that the trade's disappearance was due to a collision of factors: Vermont was the second state to join Prohibition, in 1853, around the same time that two Vermonters spirited hop rhizomes to Northern California by way of a ship that rounded Cape Horn. There, the plant flourished in the relatively dry climate. Meanwhile, hops remained susceptible to blight back East, hastening their demise.

By 1910, Vermont was no longer producing hops, and the center of production had shifted to the West.

"This is not new to Vermont. We're trying to relearn the crop," says Heather

Darby, an associate professor of agronomy with UVM Extension who is helping oversee a test crop in Alburgh at Borderview Farm, owned and tended by Roger Rainville.

UVM has dabbled in hop research over the years, but this three-quarter-acre, 600-plant test patch — called the Vermont Hops Project — is a bold attempt to resurrect production in Vermont. Darby and her colleagues have planted 20 varietals in a five-year effort to pinpoint which flourish and which fall victim to the panoply of pests and diseases that afflict them.

To demonstrate, the deeply tanned Darby fingers some Saaz leaves turning brown along their edges, the detritus of the hungry potato leafhopper. Tiny green specks cling to the leaf's underside, and she watches one scuttle along. "They dance," she says, cheerful despite the damage.

This yard was inadvertently planted on a former alfalfa field, which may explain the leafhoppers' proliferation. Darby, her colleague, researcher Rosalie Madden, and others scout for pests each week. The delicacy of hops surprised them. "Every time we come out here and see something new, you almost want to cry," Darby says. Powdery mildew, spider mites and the Eastern comma butterfly are among the maladies. ("We stumbled upon this little guy and his friends on the underside of some leaves, chowing down on a fine looking row of Cascade," the researchers write of the butterfly on their website.) Darby says growing hops "is not for the faint of heart."

While they are besieged, hop plants are also hardy. "[In spring,] a lot of them had heaved out of the ground because of frost, but were hanging on by one little rootlet," says Darby. "We were pushing them back in the ground, and now they're looking pretty good."

UVM has helped pioneer the design of a small-scale hop-harvesting machine. Hand harvesting is cumbersome, and conventional harvesters can be prohibitively expensive, so the machine could prove invaluable, says Darby.

As could the research, delivered in papers, reports and videos. Leafhoppers are virtually absent out West, for instance, so UVM's data will be a boon to farmers here. "That's one of the unique bits of information we can give to growers," Darby says.

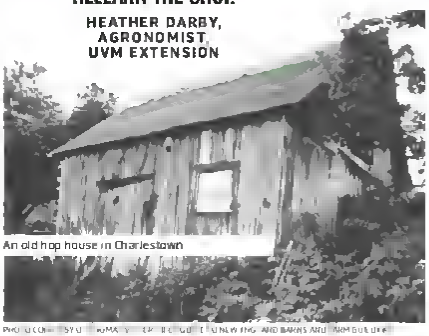
And possibly to microbrewers too, as they wait to see how a local hop trade might develop. Allen Van Anda, the brewer at Trapp Family Lodge Brewery, has consulted with the UVM project. "I'm waiting to see what's going to take hold. Then I think we're really going to jump in with both feet," he says. That could mean planting one or more acres of hops at the brewery. "God forbid we put these things in and they get wiped out in a season."

Right now, Van Anda uses 600 pounds of mostly imported German hops each year for lagers that he admits are not very "hop forward." Like other brewers, he's concerned that, despite a rising tide of growers, Vermont still doesn't produce hops with consistency. "We're still in the infant stages. We don't have the facilities or age to know what we're getting, or the nuances or flavor profiles that will come from our landscape," he explains. "Brewers and consumers alike expect a consistent product. If you buy a Harpoon IPA, you expect it to taste the same all of the time."

Renee Nadeau, co-owner of Rock Art Brewery in Morrisville, says she and her husband Matt are "huge" on locally grown hops, but also don't see the consistency or quantity they would need to use them. Jen Kimmich, co-owner of Waterbury's Alchemist Pub and Brewery, echoes that view. She sometimes rejects hops that local growers bring by because they haven't been cured properly. In-state hops have far to go, she adds. "It isn't yet lucrative in this state because the amounts are too small."

"Literally once a week, someone with acres of land used to come by and ask us if were interested in buying hops," says Shaun Hill of Hill Farmstead Brewery in Greensboro, who uses about 3000 pounds of hops a year. "It was exhausting explaining why I wouldn't buy their hops." Those issues can include improper packaging and lack of analysis.

THIS IS NOT NEW TO VERMONT.
WE'RE TRYING TO RELEARN THE CROP.
HEATHER DARBY, AGRONOMIST, UVM EXTENSION



An old hop house in Charlestown.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THOMAS VERMILYEA, GUEST LODGING AND BARNS ARE FROM BOTTOM

If local growers reached a critical mass, though, Hill says he'd be on board. "I am very excited by the prospect of being able to source Vermont-grown hops for the future of our beers, very much so," he wrote in an email. "We use Vermont grains and honey whenever possible. But it seems that the level of education and technology has not yet caught up with the level of enthusiasm that exists for such an undertaking. When the day comes, Hill Farmstead is certainly on board."

Brewer Mark Magiera of Bobcat Café & Brewery in Bristol has more flexibility when it comes to using the diminutive bundles of Vermont hops that come his way. He brews in 200-gallon batches and gleefully plays with them, using commercial and homegrown varieties from a chosen network of growers.

The bespectacled Magiera keeps an assortment of hops in his freezers. He pulls out a Ziploc bag of light-green cones from a grower in nearby New Haven and opens it. A year after harvest, the distinctive piney smell wafts out. Nestled nearby are hops from Slovenia and the U.S. West, as well as tiny clusters from Square Nails first harvest.

Outside, along the café's eastern wall, wend a dozen or so bushy hop bines — Nugget, Fuggle, Centennial, Cascade and others. They grow on twine tied to a third-story pipe, and some already have dangling cones. When the plants are ready for harvest, an upstairs neighbor threads the tops of the bines onto a fishing pole, then lowers them gently to the ground. Magiera and crew spread them out on the bar and pluck the flowers, which they will eventually use in two brews — an IPA called Lil Brick and a bitter double IPA named, aptly, Brick Wall.

Magiera crafts one-sixth of his beers with Vermont hops, and in November he plans to collaborate with UVM's Darby and Madden on a sensory evaluation of local crops. He'll brew a base beer, then add hops in various increments to judge their flavor profiles.

"The hop growers in this area are reinventing the wheel," Magiera says. "The thing I've been driving home to these local growers is that they should be focusing on aromatic varietals." Higher prices may pose issues in finding markets, however; while Magiera can get western hops for $5 to $6 a pound, local varieties can cost between $11 and $15 a pound, he says.

Magiera suggests that when Vermont growers develop their infrastructure, and equipment, they'll flourish. "Once they accomplish that, these questions about consistency will be nonexistent," he says.

Investing in a pelletizer is part of this season's plan at Bach and Birkett's Square Nail Hops Farm, just a 15-minute drive from the Bobcat. "If we had the infrastructure down, the packaging and harvesting, it would be amazing," says Bach as he walks along a row of vines. "There's a lot to learn, and it's really labor intensive. But we have an opportunity to establish our own taste of place." ⑦

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Cirque Old School

The Zoppé Family Circus keeps it real

BY LAUREN OBER



Giovanni Zoppe

COURTESY OF FLYNN CENTER

Ever since Montréal-based Cirque du Soleil double-back-flipped onto the world stage with its high-flying brand of entertainment, the number of similar performance troupes has exploded. Cirque Éloize, Cirque de la Symphonie, Cirque Berzerk and countless other shows incorporate not only the word "cirque" in their name but many of their namesake's stylistic elements, too. In a word, circus is hot.

But, says Giovanni Zoppé, leader of the Zoppé Family Circus, none of those troupes are "real circus." Real circus, the 45-year-old explains, is what his troupe does and has been doing since his forebears started doing it in Italy 169 years ago. Drawing inspiration from the Venetian commedia dell'arte of the 16th and 17th centuries, the 28-person circus doesn't make use of loud music, elaborate costumes, over-the-top makeup or Hollywood-esque production. Instead, the Zoppé circus focuses on traditional acts — horses, dogs, aerials and, of course, clowns.

But not the kind with huge wigs, floppy shoes or oversize bow ties. Zoppé, who has played Nino the Clown since he was 10, says his group's clowns are direct descendants of classical European stock.

It's not just performance style that makes the Zoppé circus stand out from its *nouvelle-cirque* contemporaries. Half the troupe is related, which means that Zoppé goes to work every day with his mother, wife, siblings, cousins and even his 22-month-old son, Julian. Until a year and a half ago, when he passed away at 88, Alberto Zoppé, patriarch and revered circus performer, entertained the crowd as the de facto ringmaster. The elder Zoppé, who first came to the United States in 1948 to perform in Cecil B. DeMille's movie *The Greatest Show on Earth*, was known for being able to do a layout somersault from the back of one moving horse to another. By the 1960s, he had revived the troupe he left in Italy, and the circus' current American incarnation was born.

Giovanni Zoppé spoke to *Seven Days* by phone from Westhampton, NY., where the circus performed recently, about real circus, working with family and doing what you love.

PERFORMANCE

SEVEN DAYS: When did you get involved in the circus? Were you part of it from the time you were little?

GIOVANNI ZOPPÉ: Yes, I've been involved since I was my son's age, but I actually started in the ring when I was 6 years old.

SD: Was there ever a thought that you might do something besides circus work?

GZ: No, this is my life. This is my choice. I have tried other things when I've been off and I've been home. Once I worked at a truss shop building trusses for houses. And that lasted about two weeks. The next year I went back and tried it again and started working in deliveries for a construction company, and that lasted about six days. I was like, *You know what? I can't do it.* I love what I do, and I've got to do it.

SD: What do you love about it?

GZ: I love looking out into my audience's eyes and looking at parents and children and teenagers and babies, and they all have the same expression on their faces of joy and disbelief of what we're doing to them. Bringing joy to people is very rewarding.

SD: What I find interesting about your circus is that it's very traditional and it doesn't employ the bells and whistles of technology and music and Hollywood production. It seems really close to what original or real circus was like. Is that accurate?

GZ: That's our goal — to be as real as possible. We're proud of the fact that we have no flashing lights or fog machines or girls in costumes so skinny you can't even see them. People with makeup so thick you can't even see the artist. We're human beings, and we're inviting people into our living room.

SD: Except that your living room is a gigantic tent.

GZ: Exactly.

SD: Why the tent? Couldn't you perform in a theater, like some other circus shows?

GZ: Well, that's not true that some circus is performed in a theater. Most circus shows that are done in the theater are called Cirque something, and they're just copycats of Cirque du Soleil. They have anywhere from three to 12 artists, and they're good gymnasts. But a true circus has horses and dogs and comedy and aerial and emotion and feeling and family. Without family, there is no circus. When you change the name to Cirque to sell tickets, you're taking that element of family away from what circus is supposed to be. That's why we aim to be what circus was a hundred years ago. Nothing flashy, no smoke and mirrors. It's all right there for everyone to see.

SD: What is the appeal of the Zoppé circus?

GZ: It's welcoming. Like you're coming home when you come in our tent. Before our shows start, all of our artists are outside of the tent welcoming people, just as you would welcome guests at your front door. As they exit, we say goodbye to them. We walk them to the door and say good night. It's a family affair. It's not a huge spectacle like some of the larger, if you want to call them, circuses.

SD: What is it like working with your family?

GZ: It's a family. So what's it like being in a family? You struggle and you complain and share joys, and you sit down at the table to eat at the end of the day. It has its challenges. That's what comes out in the show a lot. But we work together as a family unit. Without a family, like I said, there is no circus. There are joys, and then there are times when it's like, *Why am I working with my family? It'd be much easier to work at McDonalds.*

SD: Have you ever gotten hurt performing?

GZ: I've had two knee operations, two shoulder operations, I broke my spleen. But the worst thing that ever happened was I fell off the trapeze and landed on my head and was in a coma for four days. The first question everyone asked when I was OK was if I was going to go back up. There was never a thought of not going back up. It's my life. You're not going to stop driving a car because you get in an accident and have a concussion. It's my life, it's what gives me joy.

SD: Has the circus been operating continuously since 1842?

GZ: There have been some days off [laughs]. When my father came to the U.S. in 1948, it took some time to get it up and running again. Has it been continuous since 1842? I guess I can't say that. But it's always been a part of our family.

SD: And it managed to continue through both World Wars?

GZ: My father used to tell us a story that during the war they were performing for the troops at a USO event. So they would go to different army bases and perform, and he said one time the German planes started flying over and shelling, and all the circus people ran into ditches. They bombed the circus, and it was all up in smoke. And when the artists came back, all the animals had been trying to get out of their cages and couldn't and burned to death.

SD: Most people would have packed it up after that.

GZ: But you can't. That little girl in the front row has magic in her eyes. That's what it's for. My father was never a millionaire. We struggled horribly when I was a child. And we still struggle today. ⓩ

Zoppé Family Circus, Technology Park, South Burlington. Thursday and Friday, August 4 and 5, 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, August 6 and 7, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. $15-20. Tickets, 863-5966 or flynntix.org.

Got a comment? Contact Lauren Ober at lauren@sevendaysvt.com



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That '70s Show

Flo Meiler pole-vaults into the record books

BY SARAH TUFF

FITNESS

The night before Flo Meiler and I meet, 12 gallons of water are pooled in the pole-vaulting pit at Burlington High School. But by the time I show up, she's bailed it out and is practicing nimble hop-steps in her green-and-white singlet and briefs. Then, carrying a long white pole, she sprints and arcs up and over a six-foot-high bungee rope.

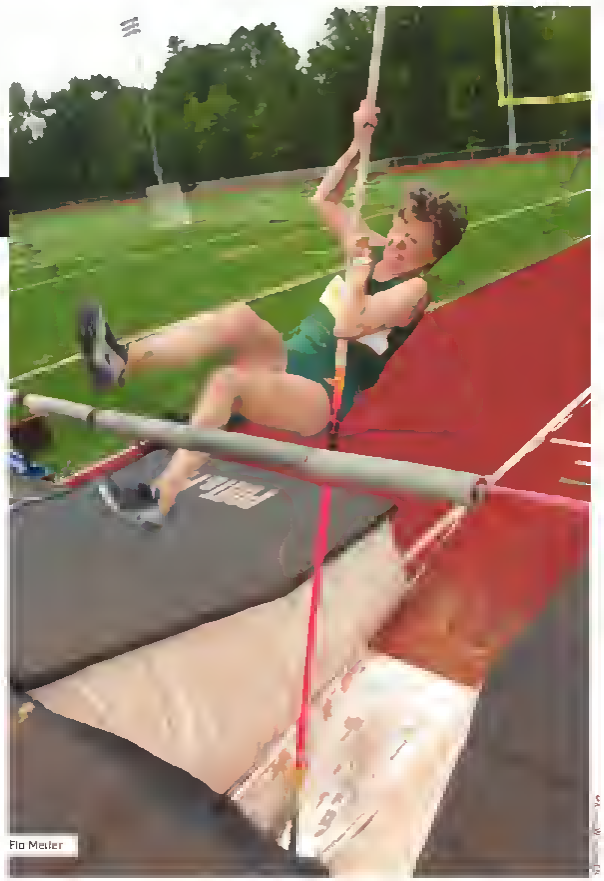
This would look like a normal, everyday track-and-field practice, except for the fact that Meiler is a grandmother of five. At an age when walking up the stairs can be a hurdle, Meiler actually *does* the hurdles — one of 18 athletics events she not only competes in but also wins, again and again.

More than 750 medals, 80 trophies and 150 ribbons are stuffed into Meiler's home in Shelburne, most of them belonging to Flo — her husband, Gene, is also a competitive athlete. This summer, she won three more golds, a silver and a bronze at the National Senior Games, and then four golds, three silvers and a bronze at the World Masters Athletics Championships — all shortly after turning 77.

Never mind the "breakfast of champions" Wheaties box. Meiler is more like a poster "child" for the Vermont Senior Games Championships, a summerlong festival of "fun, fitness and fellowship," according to the newly revamped organization's motto, for athletes 50 and older. "I feel proud of what I'm doing at my age," says Meiler during a break between vaults. "I don't hide it at all."

Baby boomers may be aging better, for the most part, than their predecessors, and plenty of former professional and Olympic-level runners can keep competing until the Grim Reaper catches up. But Meiler didn't actually start track and field until she was 60. From Champlain, NY, she was a competitive water-skier for 30 years, and she met Gene, a former World War II B-52 bomber pilot, at a Rouses Point ski club. After living in Orlando and California, the pair landed in Vermont in 1966. Meiler began competing in tennis in 1991.

A few years later, though, when Meiler was aiming to qualify for the Senior Olympics in tennis, her friend Barbara Jordan of South Burlington encouraged her to try track — the sport had a dearth of older women. "So I went and tried the long jump, and I fell in love with it," recalls Meiler. "I didn't know what I was doing, so I just ran and came out fourth out of about 20 ladies, and that really psyched me up."



Flo Meiler

Pretty soon, Meiler was trying the high jump, and then taught herself to pole-vault — it remains her favorite event — starting when she was 65. "It's very challenging — the first time I tried it, a friend said, 'Flo, Flo, don't do it, don't do it, you're going to get hurt,' and I just ignored her," says Meiler. "I guess I'm brave."

Though Meiler's gumption has garnered plenty of golds, she also credits Charlotte-based vaulting coach Kurt Fischer, who'll be staging the Vermont State Senior Pole Vaulting Championships on August 12 at his home. Her routine includes weights and tennis twice a week, track workouts five times a week, a nutrition shake every morning, vitamins three times a day, Gatorade and a little caffeine. "For food, I'm pretty careful before a meet," says Meiler, "but every once in a while I'll have a nice big steak or something."

Then there's the actual pole-vaulting practice, which includes running and flipping herself over a bungee rope (more forgiving than the bar used in meets) repeatedly. "Of course, you have to warm up, just like anything else," explains Meiler, demonstrating her technique at the BHS track. "You have to get your legs into it, you have to kick your feet up and have strong hamstrings, and you need a lot of core — I'll do crunches, a few push-ups."

YOU HAVE TO GET YOUR LEGS INTO IT, YOU HAVE TO KICK YOUR FEET UP AND HAVE STRONG HAMSTRINGS, AND YOU NEED A LOT OF CORE.

FLO MEILER, SENIOR ATHLETE

Meiler's multifaceted training regimen has paid off not only in medals and many world records, but also in multiple titles: the USA Track & Field Female Athlete of the Year, the Vermont Senior Games Athlete of the Year (1997, 2004, 2005, 2009), and a spot in the USATF Masters Hall of Fame (2010).

There's just one problem. Meiler's pal Barbara Jordan — the one who encouraged Meiler to try track 17 years ago — has turned 75 and is now in the same competitive age group as Meiler. At the World Masters last month, Jordan (who does not pole-vault) broke a world record set by Meiler in the 200 long hurdles.

"I said, 'I'll break it again,'" quips Meiler.

But the two insist they are very friendly rivals. "We're like the odd twins or something," says Jordan of the women's reception among other states' senior athletes at large championships.

With the national and world meets out of the way, Meiler, Jordan and other Green Mountain athletes are now focusing on the Vermont Senior

Games, which include not only the pole-vaulting competition in Charlotte but also other track and field events on August 13 at South Burlington High School. A clinic for track rookies winds up this Thursday. "You don't have to be a good athlete," notes Jordan. "It's just fun to compete."

Formerly called the Green Mountain State Games, the Vermont Senior Games got its new name this year along with a new president — cyclist Don Kjelleren of Shelburne — and a new board that aims to increase participation. "I was on the board for more than 10 years, but I think I've done my time," says Meiler. "I need to devote my time to practice if I want to keep my scores up."

At this point, she doesn't have to worry about wasting time in a physician's waiting rooms. "My doctor said, 'If I had more patients like you, I wouldn't make any money,'" says Meiler.

Not that she doesn't occasionally need a little aid. Meiler has fractured a toe and pulled her hamstrings and quads, and she got 12 stitches on her leg after a mishap in a steeplechase event. About three years ago, she says, she slipped while pole-vaulting, got stitches in her head and went right back to the pit to keep competing. "They wouldn't let me finish!" she says. "I wanted to set a new record that day. I said, 'I'm running tomorrow!'"

Meiler sighs, but seems unflustered by the humidity that's begun to cloak the BHS track. "I'm pretty tough for an old lady," she says. ⑦

The Vermont Senior Games State Pole Vaulting Championships take place on Friday, August 12, at 9 a.m. at 2476 Ferry Road in Charlotte; the rain date is Saturday, August 13, at 3 p.m.

The Vermont Senior Games Track and Field Championships take place Saturday, August 13, at 8 a.m. at South Burlington High School. Anyone who is at least 50 by December 31, 2011, may compete, but registrations for both events must be received by August 8. Fees apply.

For more information on these events and other upcoming tournaments visit vermontseniorgames.org or call Barbara Jordan at 658-4486.

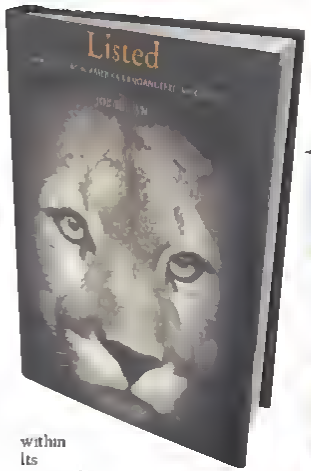
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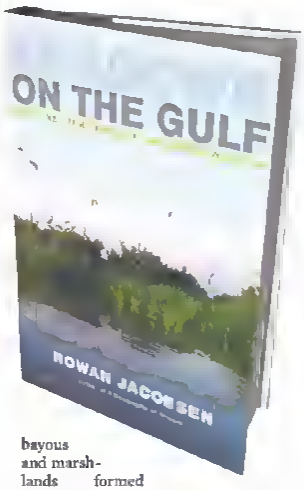


Nature Calling

Book reviews: *Listed: Dispatches From America's Endangered Species Act*; *Shadows on the Gulf: A Journey Through Our Last Great Wetland*

BY AMY LILLY





With all of the focus these days on the coming devastation of global warming, it's hard to remember that the natural world, however compromised, is still teeming with life. Two new books about conservation by Vermont authors remind us how extraordinary that life is, and what we need to do to keep it going.

In *Listed: Dispatches From America's Endangered Species Act*, Monkton author Joe Roman, a University of Vermont conservation biologist, reports from around the country that things are actually looking pretty good for the ever-embattled law and the species it has protected through the years. Calais author Rowan Jacobsen focuses on the Gulf of Mexico in *Shadows on the Gulf: A Journey Through Our Last Great Wetland*. His book is a paean to the vitality of the Gulf's marshes, despite the systematic abuse they've endured over the past century, and an impassioned plea for their restoration.

Roman's purpose in *Listed* is ambitious: to determine if the Endangered Species Act has "worked" nearly four decades after its passage in 1973. Sweeping in its day, the legislation now protects 577 animal species and 795 plants. So the author's approach is necessarily selective, yet stylistically depth plumbing — as if influenced by the creatures he wrote about in his previous book, *Whale*. "Dispatches" is the word to keep in mind while navigating Roman's richly anecdotal, discursive style and penchant for superfluous, ironic detail.

Roman acknowledges that the ESA has its failings. With funding for listed species weighted toward the fuzzy and big, invertebrates — clams, insects, corals and the like — tend to get the short end of the stick. The listing process is so expensive and time consuming that some species die out while waiting to be declared endangered. And then there are all those outside the list. "Each year," Roman laments, "about one out of every hundred animal and plant populations goes extinct. One out of a hundred!"

But the success stories are undeniable. One no-brainer is the Florida alligator. Once hunted nearly to extinction, it has come back entirely. It remains listed because it's too easily mistaken for the still-endangered American crocodile. (To learn about another success, the red-cockaded woodpecker, read an excerpt of *Listed* online at sevendaysvt.com.)

Some species have required more than habitat protection and a hunting ban. Inbred Florida panthers used to crossbreed with Texas cougars before human settlement closed that corridor forever. (Panthers are cougars are catamounts; they're all just regional names for pumas.) In 1995, breeders flew some cats to the others' territory, and now the panthers are back.

Peregrine falcons are among us because of genetic intervention, too. After the species native to the eastern U.S. went extinct, "a captive stock made up of seven subspecies from four continents was used to re-falcon the Midwest and East," Roman writes.

The ESA has also been an economic success, he points out. Wildlife tourism in Florida, for example, supported 51,000 jobs in 2006 — "about as many as Walt Disney World." Those workers earned $1.6 billion, "a figure comparable to all the money spent on golf equipment across the country."

But perhaps the regulation's biggest benefit for humans, Roman argues, is one of its side effects. To protect a species, you must preserve its habitat. Biodiversity thrives in protected areas, and it's looking like chronic and devastating human diseases are held in check by letting the wide range of life do its thing. West Nile virus, for example, is transmitted between infected birds and humans by mosquitos. But regions biodiverse enough to support egrets and herons are lucky: The birds are "dead-end hosts — when a mosquito bites one of these birds, the disease stops there."

The U.S. has a surprisingly good track record for setting aside land. "While the country comprises just 6 percent of the terrestrial world," Roman writes, "15 percent of the planet's protected areas lie within its boundaries."

> EACH YEAR, ABOUT ONE OUT OF EVERY HUNDRED ANIMAL AND PLANT POPULATIONS GOES EXTINCT. ONE OUT OF A HUNDRED!
>
> JOE ROMAN, *LISTED*

Roman's meandering, philosophical style makes for slow going but rich description. He follows his "dispatches" out to their unraveled ends. How far should we go, he asks, with genetic intervention? Should conservationists be happy if scientists succeed in helping elm trees withstand future Dutch elm disease by introducing pathogens used in genetically modified foods into the trees' DNA?

Roman's ideas for what the rest of us can do include getting landowning citizens to foster diversity in their own backyards, and establishing conservation trust funds funded not just by wealthy donors but visitors to national parks and companies that benefit from land conservation — which often include any that use freshwater. Of course, he asserts, firm legislation from the federal government is the key.

Jacobsen echoes this view in *Shadows on the Gulf*, a rhetorically powerful account of a region Americans tend to write off as a national dumping ground. We're naturally drawn to the marshes and bayous of the Gulf, he argues, because of the unique vitality of plant and animal life that exists at that convergence of land and water. Saving the Gulf "isn't simply a matter of livelihoods," Jacobsen declares, in a style quite the opposite of Roman's — more *New Yorker* columnist than depth plumber. "It's a question of meaning, and beauty, and spirit."

Early chapters sum up how the Gulf's bayous and marshlands formed and how they work. Jacobsen covered this in more detail in his last book, *The Living Shore: Rediscovering a Lost World*, which *Seven Days* reviewer Elisabeth Crean declared "a remarkable gem of environmental contemplation." Next comes a history of the region's oil industry and how it works — down to the number of abandoned offshore wells that have never been capped.

Depressing stuff, dispatched in riveting summaries. Oil was discovered under the wetlands in the 1930s; offshore drilling began in the late 1940s. Depletion of the shallowest reserves soon led to deepwater and, in 2004, ultra deepwater drilling. The latter extracts oil from underwater depths of 5000 feet or more.

Jacobsen then delivers a clear, full account of the BP disaster. The 2010 blowout, the biggest in American history, occurred while BP engineers were trying to cap the Macondo well, a site being explored by the rig *Deepwater Horizon*. The rig was owned by Transocean, a huge player in the oil-exploration industry. Its drill pipe was three miles deep. When does such a project ever go right? Very rarely, it turns out. The ocean floor is riddled with abandoned exploration holes, which deflate the ocean floor and cause Gulf land to literally sink.

Equally alarming is Jacobsen's account of the inadequate and, in some cases, misguided efforts at cleanup — surface booms that ignored the deep swaths of oil, the environmentally disastrous use of dispersant, the false hope of oil-eating bacteria. The last, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration failed to recall, are eaten by larger organisms, which then pass it up the food chain — leaving "shadows" of the oil's carcinogens, toxins and other contaminants in, eventually, humans. (The shadows of Jacobsen's title are many things, not least the dark, shadow-like drifts of oil that will be turning up in the region for a long time to come.)

Jacobsen is keen to show how that media-blanketed event was only the latest in a long series of mostly ignored atrocities that have been visited on the Gulf. "The truth is that we have been screwing the Gulf for decades," he writes. The two biggest culprits are the oil companies' canals, cut throughout the marshes to lay miles of pipeline, and the Army Corps of Engineers' "shackling" of the Mississippi River with levees, which prevent the natural influx of freshwater into the marshes.

Both have shrunk the Gulf Coast Land that supported whole towns only a generation ago is disappearing underwater — in Louisiana, at a rate of 24 square miles a year. Fully a third of the Gulf's 6000 square miles of wetland have succumbed to the ocean. No less harmful are corrupt politicians, midwestern industrial agriculture and even house owners along the Mississippi River who use Simple Green to clean their homes. The cleaner contains Corexit, the dispersant BP sprayed at the rate of 140 000 pounds a day — yet the same amount washes daily down the Mississippi, Jacobsen asserts, from household detergents used to break up grease.

Oddly, Jacobsen avoids the factor of global warming — a central point in Roman's book — but on other points the authors' concerns overlap. Both highlight the importance of people as participants within ecosystems. Both acknowledge the value of a "star" animal or plant for instigating habitat preservation; in Jacobsen's account, when Gulf restoration has occurred, it's been in the name of the oyster.

Both authors also bring up floating whale poop and its role in fertilizing phytoplankton on the ocean's surface — the fish population's primary food. Jacobsen sums up the 2010 discovery in a paragraph and a half as one example of the complexity of ecosystems. What he doesn't mention is that Roman made that discovery — a fact not even made clear in Roman's own account. In a rambling chapter called "Raising Whales," the biologist touches on sloths' defecation habits, the financial boon of bird watching, and a Rottweiler who can smell the difference, aboard ship, between humpback and right whale scat. Roman's own game-changing idea — that whales may actually increase fish populations, not threaten them, as the Japanese whale industry has long claimed — is nearly lost in the shuffle.

The new field of ecological economics also informs both books. Financial calculations are now being made to assign actual dollar values to environmental costs, enabling a real comparison with industry profits. Such arguments are perhaps the only ones fit for combatting insanities such as the Rally for Economic Survival, put together by the Louisiana Oil and Gas Association in response to President Obama's decision to impose a six-month moratorium on deepwater oil production in the Gulf shortly after the BP disaster.

These books do their best to foster hope. Yet the fact remains that all of our efforts to save nature may ultimately be undermined simply by humans' tendency to exponentially reproduce. Roman captures the trend in a single, chilling snapshot of Florida. Five hundred people move there every day, he writes, the state is "expected to grow by another three million in the next decade. That's three million more people needing shelter and showers, fresh produce, air-conditioned bedrooms and cars, and three million more desires for McDonald's, Starbucks, Wal-Mart, day golf, night golf, even nature trails — and a whole lot of asphalt to take them to their dreams."

> THE TRUTH IS THAT WE HAVE BEEN SCREWING THE GULF FOR DECADES.
> ROWAN JACOBSEN

But for now, at least, we have the Endangered Species Act, the potential for powerful additional legislation to save our natural world and effective, compelling advocates for both. ⑦

Listed: Dispatches from America's Endangered Species Act by Joe Roman. Harvard University Press. 360 pages. $27.95.

Shadows on the Gulf: A Journey Through Our Last Great Wetland by Rowan Jacobsen. Bloomsbury. 232 pages. $25.

Read excerpts from both books at sevendaysvt.com.

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Garbage Gourmet

Digging in the Dumpsters of central Vermont to find dinner

BY LAUREN OBER

The Capital City Dumpster Tour begins in the parking lot of the Hunger Mountain Co-op late on a Saturday night. Lee and Barney, the chosen names of my tour guides, sit cross-legged on the ground studying a DeLorme gazetteer. Methodically, they plot a route that will take us to what they consider central Vermont's best Dumpsters. The parking lot is empty of cars, as it's well past closing time.

Lee and Barney determine to hit the sausage Dumpster, the cheese and butter Dumpster, the maple Dumpster, and the food-pantry Dumpster. Just for kicks, they throw in the socks Dumpster. And maybe they'll try the bread Dumpster, though neither has ever been to it, and there's a chance it might be locked.

"This is an all-out Dumpstering mission," says Lee, the driver for the evening and the taller and more chiseled of the two.

"It's like a fishing expedition," explains Barney, who is wiry with ropy muscles and long sideburns. He couches his explanation with a disclaimer. We might not find anything, so don't get your hopes up.

I have arrived at this tour somewhat by accident. Lee and Barney, who live in my neighborhood, were talking about dinner one night, and I asked them what they were having.

"Ham salad," Lee replied. "With Dumpstered ham." He was practically beaming. Of course, I took the bait.

"What do you mean, 'Dumpstered ham'?" I asked.

He then regaled me with the story of how he and his friend Barney had recently been diving in garbage bins and retrieved a boneless half ham made by Vermont Smoke and Cure. With the spoils of that mission, they made a tangy ham salad and had plenty of meat left over for a few more meals.



WE PARK SOME DISTANCE FROM THE REFUSE, AND BARNEY OUTLINES THE SIMPLE RULES

BE QUIET, AND IF THE COPS APPROACH, LEG IT.

They didn't know why the ham had been discarded, though they guessed it was past its sell-by date. They used their best judgment, honed over years of Dumpstering, to determine that the meat was safe to eat. And it was — neither man fell ill after his meal of ham salad.

I had heard of people Dumpster diving for stale pastries at Dunkin' Donuts just because they could. And I was aware of the more enterprising Dumpster divers who might search bins after farmers markets looking for bruised, yet perfectly edible, fruits and vegetables that had been tossed. But I had no idea the haul that could be taken from the Dumpsters of Vermont's many specialty food producers. So Lee and Barney agreed to take me along on one of their trips.

After Barney's warning that we might not find much, he explains that Dumpstering is better in the winter for one obvious reason: The food doesn't go bad. They can often get through the whole season on Dumpster plunder. Granted, the snow and cold make it more challenging. But at least you're not confronted with sweating blocks of cheese or the asphyxiating aroma of a Dumpster in summer.

From Montpelier, we drive to Waterbury, three astride on the bench seat of Lee's truck. Our first stop is Green Mountain Coffee Roasters. Neither man has been to this site before, but they figure it's worth a try. We park some distance from the refuse, and Barney outlines the simple rules: Be quiet, and if the cops approach, leg it. We don our headlamps and stride toward the Dumpsters.

Barney spots trouble immediately. Like most large food processors, GMCR makes use of an industrial trash compactor — a "nightmare" for Dumpster divers, Barney says. These have been installed over the years primarily because they make large-scale waste disposal easier. The Dumpstering-deterrence factor is an added bonus. We hop back in the truck and head to the next location.

Dumpster diving, or trash picking, has occurred as long as there have been garbage cans. Today's Dumpster divers, or human raccoons, as I came to see them, are drawn to the act for many reasons — necessity, disapproval of waste, the thrill of the hunt, etc. For Lee and Barney, both in their late twenties and gainfully employed, it's all of the above. While there is no specific law prohibiting Dumpster diving in Vermont, it's technically considered trespassing and therefore not without risk.

When Barney started Dumpstering a decade ago, spurred largely by his punk-rock, counterculture activism, he started off small, pilfering dented cans of food from garbage cans. Over time, he learned where the most bountiful spots were. Eventually, he says, it "became a way of life." Now he does it about once a month. Over the winter, Barney hit the Dumpster of a large bakery in Burlington and left with a season's worth of edible, albeit days-old, bread. As revolting as it might sound, he's also managed to pluck perfectly good pizzas, sandwiches, and fish and chips out of the garbage.

Like Barney, Lee began Dumpster diving for philosophical reasons. He decried the waste and wanted to do something about it. Plus, he eschewed and actively railed against corporate culture. His first experience was at a tofu factory where he managed to salvage many bricks of the stuff. Over the years, Lee has become less dogmatic about Dumpstering. Now it's just a fruitful hobby.

Our second stop of the night is Red Hen Bakery in Middlesex. Like our first stop, this one is a bust. The Dumpster is barred and locked. This is done, Barney explains, not only to prevent people from taking food but also to ward against

GARBAGE GOURMET » P.31

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SIDEdishes

BY CORIN HIRSCH & ALICE LEVITT

Mi Casita Opens in St. Albans

84 NORTH MAIN STREET
ST ALBANS 529-5215

An authentic Mexican restaurant opened last month just south of the border. The Canadian border, that is. **MI CASITA** is the brainchild of **FRANK INZUNZA**, an Arizona native of Spanish and Mexican descent, who was recently maitre d' at the **NORTH HERO HOUSE**. Along with his wife, **ADRIANA**, and his in-laws, **DAVE** and **MOIRA LEDUC**, Inzunza is introducing his cuisine to St. Albans in the spot recently vacated by Blue Acoro — and folks are eating it up.

According to Inzunza, he's been serving an average of 75 people a night, about a quarter of whom are eschewing tacos, burritos and enchiladas in favor of his most authentic house specialties.

Those dishes include pollo mole, barbacoa (braised, spiced beef) and birria, a spicy pork stew rarely seen on menus in New England. Inzunza is particularly keen on his pollo mazatlan, roasted chicken served with potatoes, zucchini and corn, and excitedly talks up the chile-barbecue glazed pork ribs. "Guests will definitely find it hard to put down," he says of the half or full racks.

Food isn't the only reason to try Mi Casita. Exotic margaritas are a specialty, with flavors including mango, papaya and guava. "It will be the best Mexican restaurant in New England," Inzunza boasts. "I'm confident of that."

In related news, **EL GATO CANTINA**, Burlington's much-awaited Mexican spot, opened last week on lower Church Street. The menu is a mix of traditional dishes, such as tacos and tamales, and specialties such as barbacoa, pozole and a spiced, grilled corn called elotes callejeros.

—A L & C N

Down by the Riverside

DRAMA AT THE RIVER HOUSE AT THE STOWE INN

SIVEO HOUSE, the new restaurant at the **STOWE INN**, opened on June 10. On July 4, chef **DOUG GROENDYKE**, the force behind the locavore bent of the new eatery, who made his name cooking at Michelin-starred Miami restaurants, left for good. "It's such a shame," he says. "I trained a great staff there. I feel sorry for them that they have to deal with this without me."

Groendyke attributes his departure to a tense relationship with new general manager, **MARIANNE LINDER**. For her part, Linder says that she is unable to discuss an employee, past or present. She does say that she's working hard to make the restaurant a success. Groendyke's sous-chef, **JAYME THURBER**, previously of **STOWE MOUNTAIN LODGE**, is now executive chef. Thurber says her team is working to join the **VERMONT FRESH NETWORK** and to keep up ties with local farms.

Beef from **BOYDEN FARM** and **PT FARM** figures prominently on the new menu, which Thurber says focuses on steak and seafood, with two daily farm-fresh specials. When *Seven Days* spoke with Thurber, she was brining local duck for that night's dinner. Each Thursday, prime rib is featured. Friday, it's a clambake.

Linder says she's excited about the restaurant's potential under Thurber. "We have a creative new talent in the kitchen," she says. "I think it's going to be wonderful."

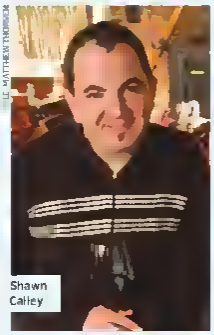
SIDE DISHES » P39

Amuse Brings Fine Dining to Essex

70 ESSEX WAY ESSEX 878-1100

The **ESSEX CULINARY RESORT & SPA** has long been a destination for fine dining and culinary education. Starting on Thursday, August 4, guests can get both when they take one of 12 seats at the chef's table at the resort's new restaurant, **AMUSE**.

The name, says Essex food and beverage director and master chef **ARNO SIEVERS**, comes from the term "amuse-bouche," the single-bite palate jumpstarters often served at fine-dining restaurants. Adds executive chef **SHAWN CALLEY**, "Why not call it that? We want to amuse people with our food and service."



Shawn Calley

LC MATTHEW THORSEN

According to Sievers, the mission of Amuse is to entertain *and* educate guests. Diners seated at the marble chef's table, with its teardrop-shaped pendant lights spotlighting each plate, can talk to executive sous-chef **ALEX CASIMIR** as he prepares five- to nine-course dinners to their tastes. A chalkboard displays the prime ingredients of the evening, such as **VERMONT WAGYU** beef and **MONITOR BARNS FARM** chicken and produce. Using those staples, says Calley, the chefs can go "wild and crazy" preparing what they think will be delicious at a particular moment.

Patrons of the 56-seat restaurant who don't dine at the chef's table can still get some education with their edibles. The bill of fare includes the resort's in-house equivalent of the *The Food Lover's Companion*, a popular glossary of foodie terms. "There's a little thing about the farms and explaining our mission. We explain the Anti-Griddle and sous-vide," says Calley. "We want to give people more knowledge about what we're doing."

Yep, there's an Anti-Griddle. Calley says one dish that requires the fast-freezing implement is a "surf-and-turf" of braised, Asian-style pork belly and grilled watermelon — which, says Calley, has a translucent appearance akin to tuna. Once it's grilled, Casimir, who started his career at Le Cirque in Las Vegas, freezes the melon on the Anti-Griddle. He finishes the plate with baby wasabi greens and soy pudding or foam.

Despite the sophisticated bent of the food, both chefs insist they want diners to feel comfortable coming in jeans and T-shirts, even if they're supping on filet Rossini with foie gras and truffle demi-glace — or braised and fried chicken hearts. "We don't want to be a hoity-toity fine-dining restaurant," says Sievers. "It's a casual setting with great food."

—A L

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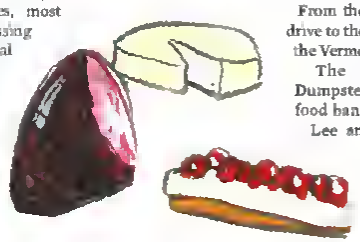
Garbage Gourmet «P36

potential liability. Plus, many companies don't want consumers — even those who haven't paid for the item — using an inferior product.

"It's like, *We want this destroyed, but you can't have it for free*," Barney says. "But we're in a world where so much stuff is getting thrown away."

From Red Hen, we take an epic detour over dirt roads to the Cabot Hosiery Mills in Northfield. While socks aren't food, they are things that get discarded because of slight imperfections. We pull up to the Dumpsters and Lee swings the truck around so the gate is facing the bins — it's easier to get away when the truck is pointed toward the road.

Lee and Barney lift open the Dumpsters and slowly lower the lids. Inside are bags upon bags of sock bodies, most of them missing some essential element — a toe, a heel, even a foot. But the pair know well enough that not all the socks are malformed. They search through the hosiery detritus. Between the two of them, they pull out five intact, though mismatched, socks.



Before leaving, they clean up the socks, putting them back in their plastic bags and returning them to the Dumpster. Then they set out to find some meat.

It's 11 p.m., and, so far, the tour has the feeling of a fishing trip on a lake with no fish. We arrive at a nondescript convenience store — in what town I can't say, because the trip has had a disorienting effect on my inner compass. Lee and Barney back up to the Dumpster at the rear of the store and dive in. Puffs of hot garbage smell hit my face as the two move around in the bin. They are looking for more ham, or really any meat. For some reason, this Dumpster often contains Vermont Smoke and Cure summer sausages, pepperoni and maple-brined bacon. It's an "easy hit," Lee says. This evening it did not disappoint.

Lee and Barney pull from the Dumpster a few unblemished packages of meat, as well as some random utility beers and a bottle each of Mike's Hard Lemonade and Twisted Tea. But they are skeptical about the meat because of the unseasonable temperatures and ultimately throw it away.

"That was one of those Dumpsters you come away from smelling a little funny," Barney quips as we hop back in the truck.

Next we hit an industrial park in Barre that is home to a number of dive-worthy Dumpsters. At Vermont Butter & Cheese Creamery, a fence encages the Dumpsters, but Lee and Barney slip under it and sift through the trash to find some rounds of chèvre and a few containers of mascarpone.

Then we move on to Highland Sugarworks, where the Dumpsters are laced with the sweet smell of maple. This bin offers up a trio of intact bags of apple-cinnamon pancake mix.

From there, it's a quick drive to the mother lode — the Vermont Foodbank. The irony of Dumpstering from the food bank is not lost on Lee and Barney. But here, food is thrown away if it is deemed too damaged, old or questionable to feed to the food insecure. At this stop, the duo has to compete with a hungry skunk scavenging its way through a pallet of jettisoned food.

"If his head is facing you, you're OK," Barney says.

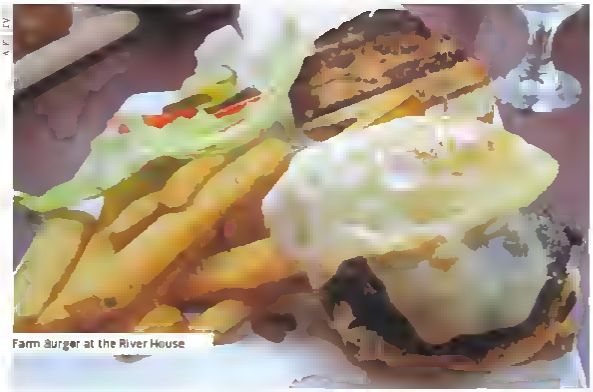
The skunk, apparently uninterested in battling it out with humans over flour sacks, jarred olives and cans of coffee, takes off. Lee and Barney are free to pick through what remains. They grab a box of penne, a shaker of Kraft Parmesan, a package of beef jerky, some cans of creamed corn, egg noodles, salad dressing, canned tomatoes, cereal and more — enough to feed them for at least a week.

It's nearly 1 a.m. by the time we finish. There are other places we could hit, but Lee and Barney are spent. The evening's take is sufficient, even without ham. Maybe next time. Hope springs eternal in the mind of the dedicated Dumpster diver.

Got a comment? Contact Lauren Ober at lauren@sevendaysvt.com

SIDEdishes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37



A.L. | DV

Farm Burger at the River House

Groendyke, who says he's taking the summer off before finding a new workplace closer to his Chittenden County home, hopes Linder is right in her expectations for River House. "I love that property and think it has so much potential," he says.

— A.L.

Midd-palate

CAFÉ COMING TO MIDDLEBURY'S MARQUIS THEATRE

Every eatery starts with an idea. So it is with the café set to open inside Middlebury's **MARQUIS THEATRE** next year, offering moviegoers the chance to nosh on pizza or sip wine while taking in first-run blockbuster and independent films.

Owner **BILL SHAFER**, who bought the historic building in 2006, hopes to transform one of his downstairs vaudeville-era theaters into a 60- to 80-seat café serving small plates, soups and salads, and beer and wine. "It would be mostly tapas, and comfort and finger food. There's already a lot of restaurants on the block, so this wouldn't necessarily be an eating destination," says Shafer, who counts Waitsfield's **alla PICTURE THEATRE & CAFÉ** (and its co-owner, **CLAUDIA BECKER**) as one of his inspirations.

Driving the Marquis' transformation is Shafer's belief that small-town screens need to forge creative ways to survive, especially as they invest in digital projectors that can cost tens of thousands of dollars. "I know I'm not alone in small-town theaters reinventing themselves," says Shafer.

He also feels passionately that venues like his must become gathering places, on his project website, middtownarts.com, Shafer outlines his ideas for transforming his screening room into a community center that could stream live sports and music events. He'd eventually like to create a 150-seat live music venue, something that is sorely needed in Middlebury, he says. "The limitations are left to the imagination," he writes.

Shafer is seeking investors, each of whom could potentially help shape the scope of the cafe. He hopes it will open in early 2012.

— C.H.

Crumb

LEFTOVER FOOD NEWS

The Adirondack wine industry, and a local family, took a bit over the weekend when fire gutted Plattsburgh's **ELFS FARM WINERY & CIDER MILL**.

The winery, owned by **TOM FREY** and his two sons, produces apple wine and hard cider, as well as wines from cold-climate grape varietals. Frey spent the past seven years renovating a former motel to create the winery, and 2010 was its first full year of operation.

The building and all the wine on the premises — about 1500 cases in bottles and tanks — were lost, according to local reports. Many of the grapevines survived undamaged, and no one was injured.

— C.H.

Follow us on Twitter for the latest food gossip! **Corin Hirsch**: @latesupper **Alice Levitt**: @aliceeats

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Singapore in the Kitchen

Seasoned Traveler: Mangowood Restaurant at the Lincoln Inn

BY ALICE LEVITT

Before Teresa Tan left Singapore to study at the University of Hawaii, her mother sat her down and taught her to make her favorite Cantonese-style chicken rice. As a child, says Tan, now 59, "My mom never let me in the kitchen." She marinated the chicken in shiitakes, ginger, sesame and soy. Tan learned to sauté the chicken, then cook it in one pot with rice and chicken broth.

Tan says that once in Hawaii, and still inexperienced as a cook, "I would crave food from home, but I didn't know how to cook it. I would duplicate from smell. I've always had the gift of smell." That gift is now evident in chef Tan's cuisine at Mangowood Restaurant at the Lincoln Inn in Woodstock.

The smells of ginger and chile fill the small, blue-walled dining room, decorated with East Asian statues, at the back of the inn. But diners who taste Tan's fare know at once that it's far from traditional Singaporean. A tart made from Vermont Butter & Cheese Creamery chèvre comes in a crust made from lotus seeds. Apple-maple-tamarind slaw adds fresh, sweet flavor to the plate.

Mangowood Restaurant is home to something truly unique: the world's only Vermont-Singapore fusion cuisine. The restaurant opened in 2002, a year after Tan graduated from the Dover, N.H., location of Le Cordon Bleu, not far from her home at the time in Boston. At first, she says, attending the prestigious culinary school was a retirement-age lark.

The founder of IBC USA Conferences, an international conference and publishing company, Tan says that after she left the corporate hustle and hustle, her days grew stale. "I did golf, and I still suck at it," she says with a laugh. "I went horseback riding, and I fell off a horse. I'm athletically challenged. I was really bored. Amy said, 'Why not go to culinary school?'"

Amy Martsolf, 47, is Tan's longtime partner both in life and at the inn; she was a former employee at Tan's company in Boston. The couple have three young children, all of whom attended their mothers' wedding on April 28 this year.



Teresa Tan and Amy Martsolf

Already in her fifties, Tan says that she felt too old to start working the line in a commercial kitchen. Instead, she and Martsolf decided to invest in some New England country real estate "for something to do." During a web search, a pop-up ad for a Vermont B&B caught their eyes. "After a bottle of wine, we said, 'Looks like a good idea,'" jokes Tan.

The B&B in question was the Lincoln Inn at the Covered Bridge. Martsolf says the 1869 farmhouse was home to Charles Lincoln, cousin of Abe — though she's quick to admit that the 16th president died before it was built. The previous tenant, a classical French chef of Swiss heritage, left a large kitchen supplied with top-flight appliances.

"We didn't go in with blinders on, we knew it was going to be a 24/7 job," says Martsolf of making the leap. "This is her retirement. She's got a hobby. She's going to be cooking. I'm going to be doing everything else. That's why it's still in operation."

Martsolf had worked at the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge, Mass., after college, so she knew better than many starry-eyed flatlanders what she was getting into. And though the place is well staffed with housekeepers, servers, a dishwasher and a sous-chef, Martsolf can step into any of those roles when she needs to.

The restaurant's name may sound like a nod to Asian fruit. In fact, Mangowood is the result of a private joke between Tan and Martsolf. Mango was the couple's longhaired Chihuahua, who now lives with a family in Manchester, Vt., after twice biting their elder son. "Mangowood" is a play on Tanglewood, as in the Massachusetts music festival. At a symphony benefit, the women entered Mango for a chance to conduct an orchestra there. He didn't win, but the name stuck.

During the restaurant's first year in business, Tan played sous-chef to two different cooks. The first left for rehab. The next had trouble grasping Tan's flavor profiles and use of exotic spices. By the end of that year, she felt ready to run the kitchen, preparing her singular cuisine with little help, for seatings of 30 or 40 people at a time.

Tan's signature dish says all a diner needs to know about her attention to detail and knack for flavors. A whole red snapper comes to the table artfully wrapped around a pair of vertical, crossed chopsticks, its tiny, needle-sharp teeth bared. Lightly fried, the fish's skin

Continued after the classified section. PAGE 41

is crisp, the meaty flesh sweet and moist. The snapper's tail curves around a bowl of light, soy-based ginger and scallion sauce. A savory noodle stir-fry knotted with peppers, scallions and cabbage is a delicious accompaniment that doesn't detract from the artfully prepared fish.

According to Martsolf, side dishes are one of Tan's great strengths. "You can go to all these fine dining restaurants and pay a boatload and get the same sides with every entrée," she opines. "[Tan] actually spends a lot of time marrying the foods — creating and producing side dishes that really enhance the entrées."

Another example is her lamb entrée, which utilizes the bumper crop of mint growing at the Lincoln Inn. Glazed in a rich, meaty plum-and-mint sauce, the grilled chops come with an appropriately Vermont-y side of caramelized onions and baby potatoes roasted in maple syrup.

The mint also flavors a delicate cup of mushroom soup. The thick, brown bisque does nothing to betray the kaleidoscopic flavor therein. Appropriately, Tan describes the soup as "ginger with a little mushroom in it." Oodles of the root, prepared to perfection, impart a chile-like heat. Herbaceous notes are akin to lemongrass, but the chef promises it's all in the ginger itself — and a slug of ginger brandy. The oil released from the baby mint floating on top adds another refreshing zing to the complex tastes.

The amuse-bouche that's currently part of Mangowood's $38 four-course menu is a bit more than a single bite. Tan got the idea for the fried spinach ball at a "disgusting Italian restaurant" at which she and Martsolf recently dined in Virginia. "She took one bite and said, 'This is bad food, but I can make it better,'" says Martsolf.

Tan's golf-ball-sized take arrives in an Asian soupspoon. The light crust crackles as it gives way to a soufflé-like spinach purée. The ball sits in a pool of sweet chile aioli, the hot and tangy flavors of which necessitate licking the spoon clean.

The appetizer of tofu fries benefits from a bowl of the same mayo. Not that the black-pepper-and-sesame-encrusted wands really need it. Another lightly fried app, a trio of shrimp and salmon cakes, is perhaps most faithful to Singaporean flavors. Deceptively spicy, the heat of galangal (blue ginger) and chiles builds with each mouthful. A sugary dipping sauce calms the burn.

Of course, Singapore's flavors borrow from much of Asia. Tan says that a casual meal in her homeland often includes a fusion of Malay, Thai, Indian, Indonesian, Cambodian and a broad swath of ethnic Chinese dishes. Therefore, the tandoori spiced chicken breast and coconut risotto cakes with Thai peanut pesto, made from Mangowood's own basil, make equal sense on the menu. So does the wakame salad, filled with tender calamari and flavored with sesame oil and slow-burning bird chiles. As Singapore was a British colony until 1945, Tan's signature "To Die for Sticky Toffee Pudding" is also not out of place.

The dessert was one of Tan's favorites in the world when she used to travel regularly for business, stopping when she could at Roux in London. A visiting British chef-instructor at Le Cordon Bleu promised her that he would get her a recipe for "the original sticky toffee pudding." Even before she was officially a chef, Tan had the secret and practiced making the pudding assiduously, even though she says she hates to bake.

It's worth her effort. The steamed cake rests in a pool of warm caramel sauce, and the whole molten, buttery, sugary delight melts on the palate. Now, *that's* a fusion anyone could love.

Mangowood Restaurant at the Lincoln Inn, 530 Route 4, Woodstock, 457-3112, mangowood.com

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agriculture

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etc.

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PHLOX FEST Do you fancy flowers? Garden tours, cut flower displays and guest talks figure prominently in a two-week petal party. Perennial Pleasures Nursery, East Hardwick. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Info 472-5104.

VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS A whoppin' five-week festival boasts art exhibits, performances and workshops celebrating painting, poetry, crafts, culinary arts and everything in between. Visit vermontartfest.com for details. Various locations, Mad River Valley. 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Various prices. Info 496-5682, info@vermontartfest.com.

VERMONT SUMMER FESTIVAL HORSE SHOWS New England's top equestrian competition, running for six weeks, draws spectators to its five all-weather rings. Herold Beebe Farm, East Dorset. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. $3-7. Info, info@vt-summerfestival.com.

film

"THE AGE OF INNOCENCE" In Martin Scorsese's 1993 adaptation of the Edith Wharton novel, three high-society New Yorkers are trapped in a love triangle. Prefilm talk, 6:30 p.m. Loew Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. 7 p.m. $5-7; free with Dartmouth Film Society "Hot Hot Hot" pass. Info, 603-646-2422.

food & drink

BARRE FARMERS MARKET Crafters, bakers and farmers share their goods in the center of the town. Main Street, Barre. 3-6:30 p.m. Free. Info, barrefarmersmarket@gmail.com.

CHOCOLATE DIPPING DEMO Fans of cocoa-covered confectionery experience the tempering and dipping process. Laughing Moon Chocolates, Stowe. 2 p.m. Free. Info 253-9591.

GOURMET MUSHROOM WORKSHOP Find out how to grow and harvest your own shrooms for cooking from Eric Swanson of Vermush. UVM Horticultural Research Center, South Burlington. 6-8 p.m. $20-30 includes kit. Info 864-3073.

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health & fitness

AALAMBA YOGA Bring a blanket to this gentle exercise devoted to thanking joints and limbs. Unity Church of Vermont, Essex Junction. 6-7 p.m. Donations accepted. Info, 288-9265.

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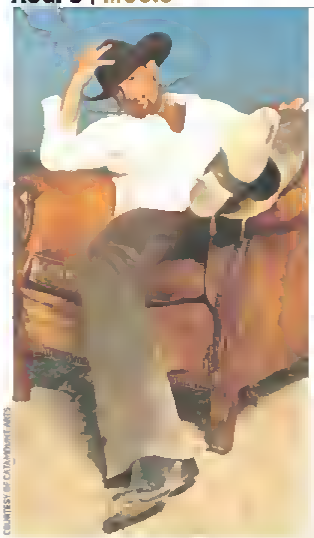
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AUG. 5 | MUSIC



COURTESY OF CATAMOUNT ARTS

Hats Off

From whiskey-fueled parties to women trouble, if you've heard about it in a country song, Chris Cagle has probably lived it. At least, that's what the title of his fourth album, *My Life's Been a Country Song*, suggests. The artist croons about the usual trappings of country music — namely, love, pain and small-town life — in what the *New York Times* calls "sturdy, infectious" numbers. The Louisiana-born, Texas-bred singer's first two albums went gold, and he's been known to bump Taylor Swift from the top of the country-album chart. Listen to him sing of "good times and hard luck" in the Northeast Kingdom on Friday. He'll be the one in the cowboy hat.

CHRIS CAGLE
Friday, August 5, 8 p.m., at Caledonia County Fairgrounds in Lyndonville. $30-35. Proceeds benefit the Lyndon Institute. Info 748-2600, catamountarts.org/chriscagle.php.

AUG. 6 | MUSIC



COURTESY OF JOHN RUSSO

Big Fish, Little Fish

For all their breezy SoCal attitude and hip-hop/ska hybrids, Sublime were never pegged as the kind of band to inspire cult fandom. But their devotees weren't quite ready to disband along with the group after front man Brad Nowell's death in 1996. Enter Badfish. The Sublime tribute act has now been around as long as the original outfit and, frankly, fills concert venues in much the same way. Some people love to hate copycats, but at least this one's doing it right — Badfish were nominated for Best Tribute Act in the 2008 Boston Music Awards. When they're not playing calculated covers, the bandmates do their own thing as Scotty Don't.

BADFISH: A TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME
Saturday, August 6, 3:30 to 6 p.m., at K-1 Lodge, Killington Grand Resort Hotel. Free. Info, 422-2146, discoverkillington.com.

calendar

AUGUST 3-10, 2011

WED.03

agriculture

FARM TOUR As part of Brownell Library's summer reading program, folks travel to a "novel destination" for an hourlong tour of the nursery and milking parlor. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. Whitcomb Dairy Farm, North Williston. 10-11 a.m. Free. Space is limited; preregister for directions. Info 878-6955.

etc.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY PHILATELIC CLUB Stamp collectors of all levels of interest and experience swap sticky squares, and stories about them. GE Healthcare Building, South Burlington. 6-8:15 p.m. Free. Info 660-4817, leineyrapp@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP Cycle fanatics fix up their rides with help from neighbors and BRV staff. Bike Recycle Vermont, Burlington. 5-8 p.m. Donations accepted. Info 264-9687.

HISTORIC TOURS Wander the turrets and balconies of this 19th-century castle boasting brick and marble facades, three floors and 32 rooms. Wilson Castle, Proctor. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. $10. Info, 773-3284, wilsoncastle@aol.com.

VOLUNTEER WORK DAY Good Samaritans help maintain the natural area. Colchester Pond. 9 a.m.-noon. Free. Info 863-5744, yumi@wwpd.org.

fairs & festivals

DEERFIELD VALLEY BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL Feeling blue? Wilmington, Whitingham and Dover make the best of the hue over 10 days with a Big Blue Parade, a Blue Street Fair, blues music, pick your own blueberries ... even blue beer. Visit vermontblueberry.com for full schedule. Various locations, Mount Snow area. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Various prices. Info 464-8092, info@visitvermont.com.

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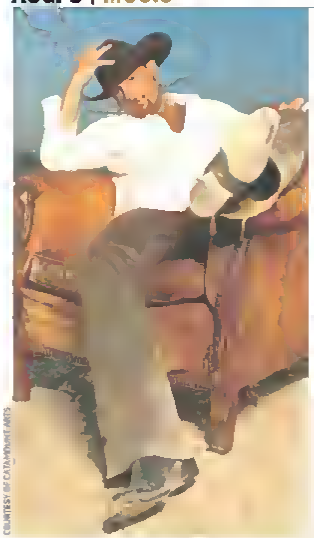
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AUG. 5 | MUSIC



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COURTESY OF BREWERS FESTIVAL

AUG. 6 | FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Fest and Furious

The Vermont Brewers Festival has come and gone, and we'll have to wait 'til next year for more dairy delights at the Vermont Cheesemakers Festival. Does that mean we're twiddling our thumbs, hungering for sustenance with a side of stunning scenery? No. That isn't the Vermont way. Instead, the good folks at Better Middlebury Partnership serve up local suds, wines, ciders and cheeses at one more foodie-friendly fest — because you can never have too many. Sprinkle in country soul by the Joshua Panda Band, indie folk from Split Tongue Crow and a view of the roaring Otter Creek Falls, and you'll see why the inaugural Midd Summer Festival is already poised to become annual.

MIDD SUMMER FESTIVAL

Saturday, August 6, 3 to 7 p.m., at the Marbleworks in Middlebury. $20; $5 for designated drivers and people under 21; free for kids under 6. Proceeds benefit the Vermont Foodbank, the Addison County Firefighters Association and the Better Middlebury Partnership. Info, 388-4126, middsummerfestival.com



COURTESY OF FAIRGLASS/CHIC TV ARTS

AUG. 5-7 | FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Everybody Plays the Fool

In ancient times, queens and kings employed court jesters for their evening entertainment. Those days are gone, but Queen City residents get the royal treatment at this weekend's Festival of Fools. Jokesters and jugglers from all over the globe deliver wacky spectacles at a street-busking extravaganza. Take the performance art of Brazil's Michel Groisman (pictured). In "Transference," he'll cover himself in candles and play with fire; in "Polvo (Octopus)," viewers join him in a full-body card game. Other standouts include Portugal's Pedro Tochas, who creates charming narratives through silent-film-style physical theater, and West Virginia's el Gleno Grande, who riffs on circus equestrian acts with a sidekick steed.

FESTIVAL OF FOOLS

Friday, August 5, 2 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, August 6, noon to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, August 7, noon to 8 p.m., at various downtown locations in Burlington. Free; donations accepted. Info, 865-7166, burlingtoncityarts.org



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COURTESY OF FLYNN CREATIVE ARTS

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WED 03 « P42

YOGA CLASS Gentle stretches improve core strength and flexibility. Champlain Senior Center. McClure MultiGenerational Center, Burlington, 9 a.m. $5 donation. Info, 658-3585.

kids

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: THE 40S MUSICAL Meddling fairies and a bungling troupe of thespians collide in a 1940s diner in this musical adaptation by Very Merry Theatre's teen actors. Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield, 5 p.m. Free. Info, 863-6607.

CRAFTSBURY CHAMBER PLAYERS MINI CONCERTS Little ones take in classical compositions with their adult companions. UVM Recital Hall, Burlington, 4:30 p.m. Free. Info, 800-639-3443.

ENOSBURG PLAYGROUP Children and their adult caregivers immerse themselves in singing activities and more. American Legion, Enosburg Falls, 9-11 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

PAJAMA STORY TIME Kids up to age 6 wear their jammies for evening tales. Arvin A. Brown Library, Richford, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 848-3313.

'X-TNEATER PRESENTS' The Burlington Parks and Recreation Open Stage Performance Camp unveils a wacky original play. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Info, 865-7216.

music

CAPITAL CITY BAND Community band members toot their own horns in marches and old-time patriotic and popular songs at an outdoor concert next to the Pavilion Office Building. Vermont Statehouse lawn, Montpelier, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 223-7069.

CRAFTSBURY CHAMBER PLAYERS World-class musicians explore classical compositions by Mozart, Chopin and Turina. UVM Recital Hall, Burlington, 8 p.m. $8-22; free for ages 12 and under. Info, 800-639-3443.

DAVE KELLER The Montpelier-based singer and guitarist emits soul-stirring blues. Little River State Park, Waterbury, 7-8:30 p.m. $2-3; free for kids under 4. Info, 279-8448.

NINESBURG CONCERTS IN THE PARK Local musicians take to the green with the Ninesburg Community Band. Rain date, Thursday. Ninesburg Community School, 6 p.m. Free. Info, 482-2894.

MUSIC ON THE PORCH Greg Igot lends blues and harmonica stylings to a picnic on the porch. Waterbury Station, Green Mountain Coffee Visitor Center & Café, 6-7:30 p.m. Free; nonperishable food-item donations accepted for the Waterbury Food Shelf. Info, 882-2700.

STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS The Vermont band sounds out swingin' honky-tonk and rockabilly. Bayside Pavilion, St. Albans, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Free. Info, 524-0909.

VALLEY NIGHT Tim and Heff Holter grace the lounge with funk and rock. Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield, 7:30 p.m. $5 suggested cover. Info, 496-8994.

outdoors

THE GREAT VERMONT CORN MAZE Weather permitting, an 8.5-acre maze of maize lures labyrinth lovers outstanding in their field. 1404 Wheelock Rd., Danville, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Free for ages 4 and under. Info, 748-1389; info@vermontcornmaze.com.

WAGON-RIDE WEDNESDAY Rides lounge in sweet-smelling hay on scenic, horse-drawn routes. Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Regular admission, $3-12. Info, 457-2355.

seminars

TECH SAVVY Experience the wonder of the web while learning about digital drawing programs with Stuart Granoff. Bring a laptop or use a library computer. Bradford Public Library, 6 p.m. Free. Info, 222-4536, breadfarpublicllbrrely@gmail.com.

sport

VERMONT LAKE MONSTERS The Green Mountain State's minor league baseball team bats against the State College Spikes. Centennial Field, Burlington, 7:05 p.m. Individual game tickets, $5-8. Info, 655-4200.

talks

BRIAN LINDNER The historian and copresident of the Waterbury Historical Society rewrits "Humorous and Interesting Plane Crashes in Vermont." Milton Historical Society, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 363-2588; abtempleton2@comcast.net.

GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE MORNING SPEAKER SERIES Karen Martinsen Fleming, director of the Sustainable MBA program at GMC, sheds light on "Why Doing Good Means Doing Well" with regard to green business practices. The Station, Poultney, 9-10 a.m. Free. Info, 287-8926.

INSTITUTE FOR LIFELONG EDUCATION AT DARTMOUTH SUMMER LECTURE SERIES Experts from a variety of fields come together to explore "Corruption: Pervasive, Persistent and Virulent" in government, sports, Wall Street and religion. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 9 a.m.-noon. $20. Info, 603-646-0154; lead@dartmouth.edu.

SUSIE SMOLEN This folksinger and storyteller proves "What a Wonderful World" it is in a presentation about Ghana, the West Indies, the Appalachian Mountains of Tennessee and beyond. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 426-3581; jaquithpublicbrary@hotmail.com.

YESTERMORROW SUMMER LECTURE SERIES Architect Laura Fitch, who specializes in energy-efficient design, builds knowledge on "Cohousing: Socioeconomic and Environmental Sustainability at the Village Scale." Yestermorrow Design/Build School, Waitsfield, 7-9 p.m. Free. Info, 496-5545.

theater

'A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC' Two Broadway veterans lead a professional 14-member cast in this popular Stephen Sondheim musical about love. Skinner Barn Theater, Waitsfield, 8 p.m. $20. Info, 496-4422.

'A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY' A housewife's boredom is relieved by the arrival of an attractive young tutor in Ivan Turgenev's romantic comedy. Unadilla Theatre, Marshfield, 7:30 p.m. $10-20. Info, 456-8968.

'THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES' Set at the 1958 Springfield High School prom, this pop musical romp by St. Michael's Playhouse includes such classic songs as "Stupid Cupid" and "It's My Party." McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester, 8 p.m. $29.50 (@ 5). Info, 654-2281.

'WILD PARTY' Andrew Lippa's Roaring Twenties musical follows the relationship of two vaudeville performers throwing a party to end all parties. Town Hall Theatre, Akeley Memorial Building, Stowe, 8 p.m. $20. Info, 253-3961; tickets@stowetheatre.com.

words

GEORGE DAVIS The Adirondack storyteller invites audience members to assist in editing a memoir of vignettes about North Country life. Depot Theatre, Westport, N.Y., 8 p.m. $12; reservations recommended. Info, 518-962-4449.

JUDITH EDWARDS The Springfield author's historical-fiction book for middle schoolers and older students, *Invasion on the Mountain: The Adventures of Will Ryan and the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933*, is set on Mount Ascutney. Vernum Memorial Library, Jeffersonville, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 644-2117.

'NEW ENGLAND REVIEW' VERMONT READING SERIES David Huddle, Gary Margolis, Janice Obuchowski and Angela Patten share their literary art. Carol's Hungry Mind Café, Middlebury, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 349-0101.

READINGS AT THE ATHENAEUM Authors Galway Kinnell and Greg Delanty share excerpts of their work in this summer reading series in its 18th year. St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 748-8291, ext. 301.

THU.04

agriculture

WATER CHESTNUT PULL Canners hand pull the invasive plants while learning about lake health and the wetlands. Snacks and equipment provided. The Nature Conservancy, West Haven Office, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info, 265-8645, ext. 30.

dance

REBECCA KELLY BALLET The mapped pirouettes and plies of this ballet combine classical technique with modern styles. Lake Placid Center for the Arts, N.Y., 8 p.m. $12-20. Info, 518-523-2512.

etc.

BASIC BIKE MAINTENANCE A cycle-shop pro introduces free wheelers to the basics of bicycle anatomy, flat fixes and roadside survival skills. Skirack, Burlington, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 658-3313.

HISTORIC TOURS See WED.03. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

ISLAND ARTS CRAFT SHOW Local artisans specializing in jewelry, quilts, baskets and more paddle their wares in a rustic lakeside barn. Shore Acres Inn & Restaurant, North Hero, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Info, 318-5228.

SUMMERVALE Folks show farms and farmers a little love at a weekly educational gathering filled with food, Zero Gravity brews and music. Intervale Center, Burlington, 5:30-8 p.m. Free admission; cost of food and drink. Info, 660-0440.

SUNSETS AT SHELBURNE MUSEUM Select museum buildings and exhibits stay open late for this weekly summer series. "Build-o-rama" offers hands-on activities with origami, paper airplanes, Legos and more. Shelburne Museum, 5-7:30 p.m. Regular admission, $5-20. Info, 985-3346.

fairs & festivals

DEERFIELD VALLEY BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL See WED.03. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

PHLOX FEST See WED.03. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS See WED.03. 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

VERMONT SUMMER FESTIVAL HORSE SHOWS See WED.03. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

film

'MY DOG TULIP' Paul and Sandra Fierlinger's 2009 animated drama about a man who takes in a German shepherd is an ode to pets and their owners. Loew Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 7 p.m. $5-7; free with Dartmouth Film Society "Hint Hint Hint" pass. Info, 603-646-2422.

food & drink

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO See WED.03. 2 p.m.

FLETCHER ALLEN FARMERS MARKET Locally sourced meats, vegetables, bakery items, breads and maple syrup give hospital employees and visitors the option to eat healthfully. Held outside Fletcher Allen Hospital, Burlington, 2:30-5:30 p.m. Free. Info, 847-0797; tanya.mcdonald@vtmednet.org.

GREENSBORO FARMERS MARKET On the shores of Caspian Lake, shoppers find a bounty of seasonal fruits and veggies, meats, breads, and baked goods. Town Hall Green, Greensboro, 3-6 p.m. Free. Info, 533-7455.

NINESBURG FARMERS MARKET Growers sell bunched greens, goat meat and root veggies among vendors of pies, handmade soap and knitwear. United Church of Ninesburg, 3:30-6 p.m. Free. Info, info@hinesburgllonsfarmersmarket.org.

JERICHO FARMERS MARKET Passersby graze through locally grown veggies, pasture-raised meats, area wines and handmade crafts. Mills Riverside Park, Jericho, 3-7 p.m. Free. Info, 343-9778; millsriversidemarket@gmail.com.

MEXICAN FIESTA Diners go south of the border at this monthly feast of enchiladas, chile rellenos and Gracie's Tamales. Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield, 5 p.m. Cast of fooo and drink. Info, 496-8994.

NEW NORTH END FARMERS MARKET Eaters stroll through an array of offerings, from sweet treats to farm-grown goods. Elks Lodge, Burlington, 3-6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 652-8072, newnorthendmarket@hotmail.com.

PEACHAM FARMERS MARKET Seasonal berries and produce mingle with homemade crafts and baked goods from the village Academy Green, Peacham, 3-6 p.m. Free. Info, 592-3061.

SOUTH ROYALTON FARMERS MARKET Various vendors peddle locally grown agricultural goods and unique crafts. Town Green, South Royalton, 3-6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 763-8087.

WATERBURY FARMERS MARKET Cultivators and their customers swap veggie tales and edible inspirations at a weekly outdoor empolium. Rusty Parker Memorial Park, Waterbury, 3-7 p.m. Free. Info, 279-4371; info@waterburyfarmersmarket.com.

WILLOUGHBY LAKE FARMERS & ARTISAN MARKET Performances by local musicians join produce, eggs, gemstone jewelry, windchimes and more to lure buyers throughout the warm months. 1975 Route 5A, Westmore, 3-7 p.m. Free. Info, 525-3842.

games

CHESS CLUB Checkmate! Board-game players try to attack the king with sly strategies. Faith United Methodist Church, South Burlington, 7 p.m. $2-3. Info, 363-5803.

health & fitness

MORNING MEDITATION See WED.03. 7-8 a.m.

kids

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: THE '40S MUSICAL See WED.03. Basin Harbor Club, Vergennes, 6:30 p.m. Free.

ALBURGH PLAYGROUP Tots form friendships over stories, songs and crafts. Alburgh Family Center, 9-11 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

CRAFTSBURY CHAMBER PLAYERS MINI CONCERTS See WED.03. First Congregational Church, Craftsbury Presbyterian Church, 2 p.m. Free.

GEORGIA PLAYGROUP Provided snacks offer an intermission to free play. Rain location: Georgia Youth Center, Town Beach, Georgia, 10 a.m.-noon. Free. Info, 527-5426.

JEH KULU DANCE & DRUM THEATER The local troupe puts forth West African music and dancing. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 2 p.m. Free. Info, 878-4918.

KIDS' CRAFT Youngsters learn about the Adinkra symbols of West Africa through stamp-making and face-painting activities. Bradford Public Library, 6 p.m. Free. Info, 222-4536, breadfarpublicllbrrary@gmail.com.

MONTGOMERY PLAYGROUP Little ones up to age 2 exercise their bodies and their minds in the company of adult caregivers. Montgomery Town Library, 10-11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

mobile

BROWSE LOCAL EVENTS ON YOUR PHONE!

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WED 03 « P42

YOGA CLASS Gentle stretches improve core strength and flexibility. Champlain Senior Center. McClure MultiGenerational Center, Burlington. 9 a.m. $5 donation. Info 658-3585.

kids

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: THE 40S MUSICAL Meddling fairies and a bungling troupe of thespians collide in a 1940s diner in this musical adaptation by Very Merry Theatre's teen actors. Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield. 5 p.m. Free. Info 863-6607.

CRAFTSBURY CHAMBER PLAYERS MINI CONCERTS Little ones take in classical compositions with their adult companions. UVM Recital Hall, Burlington. 4:30 p.m. Free. Info 800-639-3443.

ENOSBURG PLAYGROUP Children and their adult caregivers immerse themselves in singing activities and more. American Legion, Enosburg Falls, 9-11 a.m. Free. Info 527-5426.

PAJAMA STORY TIME Kids up to age 6 wear their jammies for evening tales. Arvin A. Brown Library, Richford, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Free. Info 848-3313.

'X-TNEATER PRESENTS' The Burlington Parks and Recreation Open Stage Performance Camp unveils a wacky original play. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Info 865-7216.

music

CAPITAL CITY BAND Community band members toot their own horns in marches and old-time patriotic and popular songs at an outdoor concert next to the Pavilion Office Building, Vermont Statehouse lawn, Montpelier. 7 p.m. Free. Info 223-7069.

CRAFTSBURY CHAMBER PLAYERS World-class musicians explore classical compositions by Mozart, Chopin and Turina. UVM Recital Hall, Burlington, 8 p.m. $8-22; free for ages 12 and under. Info 800-639-3443.

DAVE KELLER The Montpelier-based singer and guitarist emits soul-stirring blues. Little River State Park, Waterbury. 7-8:30 p.m. $2-3; free for kids under 4. Info 279-8448.

NINESBURG CONCERTS IN THE PARK Local musicians take to the green with the Ninesburg Community Band. Rain date, Thursday. Ninesburg Community School. 6 p.m. Free. Info 482-2894.

MUSIC ON THE PORCH Greg Igot lends blues and harmonica stylings to a picnic on the porch. Waterbury Station, Green Mountain Coffee Visitor Center & Café. 6-7:30 p.m. Free; nonperishable food-item donations accepted for the Waterbury Food Shelf. Info 882-2700.

STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS The Vermont band sounds out swingin' honky-tonk and rockabilly. Bayside Pavilion, St. Albans, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Free. Info 524-0909.

VALLEY NIGHT Tim and Heff Holter grace the lounge with funk and rock. Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield. 7:30 p.m. $5 suggested cover. Info 496-8994.

outdoors

THE GREAT VERMONT CORN MAZE Weather permitting, an 8.5-acre maze of maize lures labyrinth lovers outstanding in their field. 1404 Wheelock Rd., Danville. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. $9-12; free for ages 4 and under. Info 748-1389, info@vermontcornmaze.com.

WAGON-RIDE WEDNESDAY Rides lounge in sweet-smelling hay on scenic, horse-drawn routes. Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Regular admission, $3-12. Info, 457-2355.

seminars

TECH SAVVY Experience the wonder of the web while learning about digital drawing programs with Stuart Granoff. Bring a laptop or use a library computer. Bradford Public Library, 6 p.m. Free. Info 222-4536, breadfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

sport

VERMONT LAKE MONSTERS The Green Mountain State's minor league baseball team bats against the State College Spikes. Centennial Field, Burlington. 7:05 p.m. Individual game tickets, $5-8. Info, 655-4200.

talks

BRIAN LINDNER The historian and copresident of the Waterbury Historical Society rewrits "Humorous and Interesting Plane Crashes in Vermont." Milton Historical Society. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info 363-2588, abtempleton2@comcast.net.

GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE MORNING SPEAKER SERIES Karen Martinsen Fleming, director of the Sustainable MBA program at GMC, sheds light on "Why Doing Good Means Doing Well" with regard to green business practices. The Station, Poultney. 9-10 a.m. Free. Info 287-8926.

INSTITUTE FOR LIFELONG EDUCATION AT DARTMOUTH SUMMER LECTURE SERIES Experts from a variety of fields come together to explore "Corruption: Pervasive, Persistent and Virulent" in government, sports, Wall Street and religion. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. 9 a.m.-noon. $20. Info, 603-646-0154, ilead@dartmouth.edu.

SUSIE SMOLEN This folksinger and storyteller proves "What a Wonderful World" it is in a presentation about Ghana, the West Indies, the Appalachian Mountains of Tennessee and beyond. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 426-3581, jaquithpubliclibrary@hotmail.com.

YESTERMORROW SUMMER LECTURE SERIES Architect Laura Fitch, who specializes in energy-efficient design, builds knowledge on "Cohousing: Socioeconomic and Environmental Sustainability at the Village Scale." Yestermorrow Design/Build School, Waitsfield, 7-9 p.m. Free. Info, 496-5545.

theater

'A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC' Two Broadway veterans lead a professional 14-member cast in this popular Stephen Sondheim musical about love. Skinner Barn Theater, Waitsfield. 8 p.m. $20. Info 496-4422.

'A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY' A housewife's boredom is relieved by the arrival of an attractive young tutor in Ivan Turgenev's romantic comedy. Unadilla Theatre, Marshfield, 7:30 p.m. $10-20. Info 456-8968.

'THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES' Set at the 1958 Springfield High School prom, this pop musical romp by St. Michael's Playhouse includes such classic songs as "Stupid Cupid" and "It's My Party." McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 8 p.m. $29.50 (32.51). Info, 654-2281.

'WILD PARTY' Andrew Lippa's Roaring Twenties musical follows the relationship of two vaudeville performers throwing a party to end all parties. Town Hall Theatre, Akeley Memorial Building, Stowe. 8 p.m. $20. Info 253-3961, tickets@stowetheatre.com.

words

GEORGE DAVIS The Adirondack storyteller invites audience members to assist in editing a memoir of vignettes about North Country life. Depot Theatre, Westport, N.Y. 8 p.m. $12; reservations recommended. Info 518-962-4448.

JUDITH EDWARDS The Springfield author's historical-fiction book for middle schoolers and older students, *Invasion on the Mountain: The Adventures of Will Ryan and the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933*, is set on Mount Ascutney. Vilmum Memorial Library, Jeffersonville, 7 p.m. Free. Info 644-2117.

'NEW ENGLAND REVIEW' VERMONT READING SERIES David Huddle, Gary Margolis, Janice Obuchowski and Angela Patten share their literary art. Carol's Hungry Mind Café, Middlebury, 7 p.m. Free. Info 369-0101.

READINGS AT THE ATHENAEUM Authors Galway Kinnell and Greg Delanty share excerpts of their work in this summer reading series in its 18th year. St. Johnsbury Athenaeum. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 748-8291, ext. 301.

THU.04

agriculture

WATER CHESTNUT PULL Canners hand pull the invasive plants while learning about lake health and the wetlands. Snacks and equipment provided. The Nature Conservancy, West Haven Office. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info 265-8645, ext. 30.

dance

REBECCA KELLY BALLET The mapped pirouettes and plies of this ballet combine classical technique with modern styles. Lake Placid Center for the Arts, N.Y., 8 p.m. $12-20. Info 518-523-2512.

etc.

BASIC BIKE MAINTENANCE A cycle-shop pro introduces free wheelers to the basics of bicycle anatomy, flat fixes and roadside survival skills. Skirack, Burlington. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Free. Info 656-3313.

HISTORIC TOURS See WED.03. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

ISLAND ARTS CRAFT SHOW Local artisans specializing in jewelry, quilts, baskets and more paddle their wares in a rustic lakeside barn. Shore Acres Inn & Restaurant, North Hero. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Info 318-5229.

SUMMERVALE Folks show farms and farmers a little love at a weekly educational gathering filled with food, Zero Gravity brews and music. Intervale Center, Burlington, 5:30-8 p.m. Free admission; cost of food and drink. Info 660-0440.

SUNSETS AT SHELBURNE MUSEUM Select museum buildings and exhibits stay open late for this weekly summer series. "Build-o-rama" offers hands-on activities with origami, paper airplanes, Legos and more. Shelburne Museum, 5-7:30 p.m. Regular admission, $5-20. Info 985-3346.

fairs & festivals

DEERFIELD VALLEY BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL See WED.03. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

PHLOX FEST See WED.03. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS See WED.03. 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

VERMONT SUMMER FESTIVAL HORSE SHOWS See WED.03. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

film

'MY DOG TULIP' Paul and Sandra Fierlinger's 2009 animated drama about a man who takes in a German shepherd is an ode to pets and their owners. Loew Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. 7 p.m. $5-7; free with Dartmouth Film Society "Hint Hint Hint" pass. Info 603-646-2422.

food & drink

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO See WED.03. 2 p.m.

FLETCHER ALLEN FARMERS MARKET Locally sourced meats, vegetables, bakery items, breads and maple syrup give hospital employees and visitors the option to eat healthfully. Held outside Fletcher Allen Hospital, Burlington, 2:30-5:30 p.m. Free. Info 847-0797, tanya.mcdonald@vtmednet.org.

GREENSBORO FARMERS MARKET On the shores of Caspian Lake, shoppers find a bounty of seasonal fruits and veggies, meats, breads, and baked goods. Town Hall Green, Greensboro. 3-6 p.m. Free. Info, 533-7455.

NINESBURG FARMERS MARKET Growers sell bunched greens, goat meat and root veggies among vendors of pies, handmade soap and knitwear. United Church of Ninesburg. 3:30-6 p.m. Free. Info, info@ninesburgllonsfarmersmarket.org.

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MUSIC WITH RAPHAEL Preschoolers up to age 5 bust out song and dance moves. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 878-4918.

PJ STORY TIME Little kids rock nightgowns and flannels as special guests read from books. Fairfax Community Library, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

TEEN CLUB Youth who just — yawn! — can't find anything cool to do find mental stimulation in group games, book talks, movies and snacks. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 4:30–5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 878-4918.

music

AFINQUE The 12-piece salsa band puts forth Afro-Latin tunes in the gazebo. Old Schoolhouse Common, Marshfield, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 426-3581; jaquithpubliclibrary@hotmail.com.

BROWN BAG SUMMER CONCERT SERIES The Starline Rhythm Boys play for the lunch crowd. Christ Church Pocket Park, Montpelier, noon–1 p.m. Free. Info: 223-9604.

BURLINGTON SONGWRITERS Lyricists share and critique original works. Heineberg Community & Senior Center, Burlington, 7:30–9:30 p.m. Free. Info: 859-1822.

COLCHESTER SUMMER CONCERT SERIES Colchester's Last Word cover classic and modern-rock hits from the Rolling Stones to the Black Crowes. Bayside Park, Colchester, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 264-5640.

CRAFTSBURY CHAMBER PLAYERS See WED.03; compositions by Mozart, Chopin and Turina. Hardwick Town House.

GROOVIN' ON THE GREEN CONCERT SERIES Garrett Brown sounds out acoustic pop-rock on the grass. Maple Tree Place, Williston, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 879-9100.

ROTARY CONCERTS IN THE PARK The Starline Rhythm Boys produce honky-tonk and country tunes in the open air. Rain location: Thatcher Brook Primary School. Rusty Parker Memorial Park, Waterbury, 6 p.m. Free. Info: 882-2700.

SNOW FARM VINEYARD CONCERT SERIES After the Rodeo serve up tunes by the grapevines. Snow Farm Vineyard, South Hero, picnicking, 5 p.m.; music, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free; cash bar. Info: 372-9463.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES Bring a lawn chair or blanket to catch open-air tunes by Scott Merchant. Samuel de Champlain Center Stage, Rouses Point Civic Center, N.Y., 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 518-297-2954; genfavreau@yahoo.com.

outdoors

SUNSET AQUADVENTURE Paddlers of all abilities relish the serenity of the Waterbury Reservoir. Meet at the Contact Station by 6:30 p.m. Little River State Park, Waterbury, 7 p.m. $2–3. Includes boat rentals; registration required by 6 p.m.; call to confirm. Info: 244-7103.

THE GREAT VERMONT CORN MAZE See WED.03, 10 a.m.

sport

VERMONT LAKE MONSTERS See WED.03, 11:05 a.m.

WEEKLY SOCIAL FUN RUN Pound the pavement with others on a four- to five-mile reasonably paced outing. Skirack, Burlington, 6 p.m. Free. Info: 658-3313.

theater

'A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM' A slave hopes to earn his freedom by helping his master win the heart of a beautiful courtesan in this hilarious Stephen Sondheim musical. Weston Playhouse, 7:30 p.m. Call for price. Info: 824-5288.

'A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC' See WED.03, 8 p.m.

'A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY' See WED.03, 7:30 p.m.

'AS YOU LIKE IT' The Poultney Summer Theatre Company's junior division of Shakespeare on Main Street prove why "all the world's a stage" in this comedy. Ackley Theatre, Green Mountain College, Poultney, 7 p.m. $5–10. Info: 287-0158.

'LIVING TOGETHER' Talk about a dysfunctional family. Misguided Norman puts the moves on his sister-in-law; his brother, in-law's wife and his own wife in one hotbox weekend. Depot Theatre, Westport, N.Y., 8 p.m. $25. Info: 518-962-4449.

'THE MAGICAL LAND OF OZ' Follow the yellow-brick road with Open Air Family Theater in this outdoor adaptation of L. Frank Baum's over-the-rainbow story. Upper Valley Events Center, Norwich, 6 p.m. Free; donations accepted. Info: 526-2055.

'THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES' See WED.03, 8 p.m.

THEATER-IN-ACTION TEAM Actor/activist teens present issues based skits to inspire discussion, insight and change. FlynnSpace, Burlington, 6 p.m. $10. Info: 863-5966.

'WILD PARTY' See WED.03, 8 p.m.

'WOODY GUTHRIE'S AMERICAN SONG' The legendary folk singer behind songs like "This Land Is Your Land" wanders from coast to coast in this musical by Lost Nation Theater. Montpelier City Hall Auditorium, 7 p.m. $10–30. Info: 229-0492.

ZOPPÉ, AN ITALIAN FAMILY CIRCUS Trapeze acrobatics, equestrian showmanship and Nino the Clown squeeze into a 600-seat tent in the tradition of an old-school European circus. Technology Park, South Burlington, 6 p.m. $15–20. Info: 863-5966.



words

BOOK TALK Bookstore staffers open up about their favorite summer reads for all ages. Flying Pig Bookstore, Shelburne, 11 a.m.–noon. Free. Info: 985-3999.

DYAD COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP Participants learn to speak and truly be heard in this contemplative conversation practice. Parlor Room, Bethany Church, Montpelier, 6:15–8:45 p.m. $10 donations accepted. Info: 522-5855.

FRI.05

dance

ARGENTINEAN TANGO Shoulders back, chin up! With or without partners, dancers of all abilities strut to bandoneón riffs in a self-guided practice session. Salsalina Studio, Burlington, 7:30–10 p.m. $5. Info: 598-1077.

BALLROOM LESSON & DANCE SOCIAL Singles and couples of all levels of experience take a twirl. Jazzercize Studio, Williston, lesson, 7–8 p.m.; open dancing, 8–10 p.m. $14. Info: 862-2268.

'DELSARTE IN ACTION': LECTURE & DEMONSTRATION French historian French Wallie speaks about "Body Arts and Spirituality in Delsarte," and Joe Williams demonstrates aspects of the Delsarte system in Ted Shawn's 1919 modern-dance solo "Gnossienne." Burlington Dances, Chace Mill, Burlington, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 863-3369.

FIVE RHYTHMS DANCE WORKSHOP A free-form workout moves through different paces to integrate the mind, body and soul. South End Studio, Burlington, 6:30–9 p.m. $25. Info: 540-0044.

LUBBERLAND NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY Exuberant movers perform "12 Reasonable and Unreasonable Crying Dances." Paper Mâché Cathedral Bread and Puppet Theater, Glover, 7:30 p.m. Donations accepted. Info: 525-3031.

REBECCA KELLY BALLET ONSTAGE Professional dancers and students of all levels present short works developed in a two-week dance camp. Lake Placid Center for the Arts, N.Y., 10:30 a.m. $10; free for kids under 8. Info: 518-523-2512.

etc.

GATSBY GALA Don your costume attire, old sport! A flamboyant Roaring Twenties party with live jazz music, dancing and a silent auction raises funds for Spring Hill Horse Rescue. Summit Lodge & Resort, Killington, 6–11 p.m. $40–45. Info: 282-3387.

HISTORIC TOURS See WED.03, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

ISLAND ARTS CRAFT SHOW See THU.04, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

NAME THAT MOVIE! Cinemaddicts try to correctly title films by screening a barrage of short clips at happy hour. The CineClub, Savoy Theater, Montpelier, 5–6 p.m. $2.50. Info, 229-0598.

QUEEN CITY GHOSTWALK Haunted Burlington author Thea Lewis shares chilling tales of mystery and madness in a spooky look at Burlington's history. Burlington City Hall Park, 6–9 p.m. $14. Info: 351-1313.

fairs & festivals

OCSRFIELD VALLEY BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL See WED.03, 8 a.m.–8 p.m.

FESTIVAL OF FOOLS Three days of public silliness include continuous street performances and a 30-hour live art installation. See calendar spotlight. Visit burlingtoncityarts.com for details. Various downtown locations, Burlington, 2–10 p.m. Free; donations accepted. Info: 865-7166.

MARKET FAIR A fresh-food farmers market meets an art-in-the-park style fair with live music and entertainment. Home Depot Plaza, Rutland, 3–8 p.m. Free. Info: 558-6155.

PHLOX FEST See WED.03, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS See WED.03, 8 a.m.–9 p.m.

VERMONT SUMMER FESTIVAL HORSE SHOWS See WED.03, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

film

'THE GREATEST MOVIE EVER SOLD' *Super Size Me* star Morgan Spurlock turns his attention to product placement, marketing and advertising in this comic documentary. Loew Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 7:30 p.m. $5–8. Info: 603-646-2422.

food & drink

CHELSEA FARMERS MARKET A long-standing town-green tradition supplies shoppers with meat, cheese, vegetables and fine crafts. North Common, Chelsea, 3–6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 685-9987; chelseacommunitymarket@gmail.com.

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO See WED.03, 2 p.m.

FAIR HAVEN FARMERS MARKET Community entertainment adds flair to farm produce, pickles, relishes and more. Fair Haven Park, 3–6 p.m. Free. Info: 518-282-8781; sherry12887@yahoo.com.

FIVE CORNERS FARMERS MARKET From natural meats to breads and wines, farmers share the bounty of the growing season at an open-air exchange. Lincoln Place, Essex Junction, 3:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 879-6701; 5cornersfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

FRI.05 » P.46

Greensboro Arts Alliance & Residency

THE FANTASTICKS

BY Harvey Schmidt and Tom Jones
STARRING Bruce Buckley, Claire Charland and Drew Paramore
DIRECTED BY Sabra Jones McAteer

FRI, SAT & SUN
AUGUST 5, 6 & 7
Lakeview Inn, 295 Breezy Avenue, Greensboro, Vermont

Cocktails & Dinner at 6, show at 7:30
Wonderfully selective catered dinner by charlie hays/global bite
bring your own cocktails • wine available

TICKETS NOW ON SALE

TICKET PLUS DINNER $45
Available at Greensboro Garage, Hazendale Farms, Connie's Kitchen
SHOW ALONE
$20, students & seniors $10
senior/veteran/student tickets each night

INFORMATION (802) 533-7487
greensboroarts@gmail.com
A portion of proceeds go to UCC



FRI 05 « P.45

FOODWAYS FRIDAYS Historic recipes get a revival as folks learn how heirloom garden veggies become seasonal dishes in the farmhouse kitchen. Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Regular admission, $3-12. Info, 457-2355.

HARDWICK FARMERS MARKET A burgeoning culinary community celebrates local ag with fresh produce and handcrafted goods. Granite Street, Hardwick, 3-6 p.m. Free. Info 533-2337, hardwickfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

NARTLAND FARMERS MARKET Everything from freshly grown produce to specialty food abounds at outdoor stands highlighting the local plenitude. Hartland Public Library, 4-7 p.m. Free. Info 436-2500, hartlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

LUDLOW FARMERS MARKET Merchants divide a wealth of locally farmed products, artisanal eats and unique crafts. Front lawn, Okemo Mountain School, Ludlow, 4-7 p.m. Free. Info, 734-3822, lfmkt@tds.net.

LYNDONVILLE FARMERS MARKET A seasonal rotation of fresh fruit, veggies, meats, cheeses and more makes its way into shoppers' hands, courtesy of more than 20 vendors. Bandstand Park, Lyndonville, 3-7 p.m. Free. Info 533-7455, lyndonfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

PITTSFIELD FARMERS MARKET Villagers stock up on organic lamb, beef and goat meat, as well as Plymouth Artisan Cheese, fruits and preserves. Village Green, Pittsfield, 3-6 p.m. Free. Info, 746-8082.

PLAINFIELD FARMERS MARKET Bakers, growers and specialty food producers provide an edible banquet featuring fresh veggies, meats, eggs, cannoli and kombucha. Mill Street Park, Plainfield, 4-7 p.m. Free. Info 454-1856.

SICHMOND FARMERS MARKET Live music enter tains fresh food browsers at a melody-centered market connecting farmers and cooks. Volunteers Green, Richmond, 3-6:30 p.m. Free. Info 434-5273, cmader@surfglobal.net.

WESTFORD FARMERS MARKET Purveyors of produce and other edibles take a stand at outdoor stalls. Westford Common, 3:30-6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 524-7317, Info@westfordfarmersmarketvt.org.

WINES OF THE WORLD DINNER Chef Dennis C. Veira stirs up a five-course dinner featuring vino from the Loire Valley in France. Red Clover Inn, Rutland, 6:30 p.m. $75 plus tax and tip. Info 775-2290.

health & fitness

MORNING MEDITATION See WED.03, 7-8 a.m.

kids

'A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: THE 40S MUSICAL' See WED.03, Maple Street Park, Essex, 6:30 p.m.

FAIRFIELD PLAYGROUP Youngsters entertain themselves with creative activities and snack time. Bent Northrop Memorial Library, Fairfield, 9:45-11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

MONTGOMERY TUMBLE TIME Physical-fitness activities help build strong muscles. Montgomery Recreation Center, 10-11 a.m. Free. Info 527-5426.

SWANTON PLAYGROUP Kids and caregivers squeeze in quality time over imaginative play and snacks. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Swanton, 10-11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

'THE LITTLE MERMAID AND THE PRINCE' QuarryWorks presents a fairy-tale-focused play for young audiences. Adamant Music School, 7:30 p.m. Free; reservations recommended. Info 228-6378.

'THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA' Playnduse Junior presents Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale about a bashful prince and a very sensitive princess. McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michaels College, Colchester, noon. $5-$8.50. Info 654-2281.

language

TERTULIA LATINA. Latino Americanos and other fluent Spanish speakers converse en español. Radio Bean, Burlington, 5:30-7 p.m. Free. Info 863-3440.

music

AFRICA JAMOND The culture of West Africa comes alive through the drumming rhythms and sounds of Senegal, Mali, Guinea and Mauritania at this weekly rehearsal. North End Studio, Burlington, 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 863-6713, info@vpal.us.org.

BEACH HOUSE ON THE MOUNTAIN: NEW ENGLAND TROP ROCK FESTIVAL Parrotheads take a trip to Margaritaville as Nadirah Shakoor & Outside Art, Roger Bartlett & the Ugly Smugglers, John Frmzi, Kelly McGurre, John Reno and others perform. Town & Country Resort, Stowe, 1-11 p.m. $45 on Friday, $65 on Saturday, $99 for both days. Info, 244-6690.



BOB DEGREE & THE BLUEGRASS STORM Pack a picnic or snag a cheese plate for a bluegrass blowout, courtesy of Bob Degree, Andy Bromage, Kirk Lord and Andy Sather. Lincoln Peak Vineyard, New Haven, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free; cash bar. Info 388-7368.

CHRIS CAGLE The chart-topping country-music star dons his cowboy hat for songs like "Miss Me Baby." See calendar spotlight. Proceeds benefit the Lyndon Institute Caledonia County Fairgrounds, Lyndonville, 8 p.m. $30-35. Info 748-2600.

CHRISTIAN MUSIC COFFEEHOUSE Local musicians provide the entertainment at this nondenominational gathering. Trinity United Methodist Church, Montpelier, 7-9 p.m. Free; bring a snack to share. Info, 229-6158, rawilburg@comcast.net.

MARLBORO MUSIC A festival in its 60th year features chamber music for diverse instrumental and vocal combinations from all musical periods. Marlboro College, 8:30 p.m. $15-35. Info, 254-2394.

RANDOM CANYON GROWLERS A Wyoming bluegrass band with Randolph roots pulls off high-energy harmonies. Chandler Music Hall, Randolph, 7:30 p.m. $16. Info 728-6464.

RHINOFEST For the fourth year local acts and major headliners bring tunes to a large field. The lineup includes EOTO, Fareed Haque and Math Games Trio, Michal Menert, Jahdan Blakkamoore & Noble Society and Roots of Creation. 1930 Maple Hill Rd., Plainfield, 4 p.m. $40-50. Info 498-3277.

SUMMER CARILLON SERIES Massive bronze bells ring out in the 26th season of these warm-weather concerts. Mead Chapel, Middlebury College, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 443-3168.

SUMMER PERFORMANCE SERIES Marimba player Jane Boxall performs at the church's 32nd annual concert series. Salisbury Congregational Church, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 352-4609 or 352-6671.

outdoors

THE GREAT VERMONT CORN MAZE. See WED.03, 10 a.m.

talks

DAVID FAIRBANKS FORD The museum founder opens up on "Baby Penguins, Two-Headed Calves and the World of St. Petersburg's Museums." Main Street Museum, White River Junction, 6-8 p.m. Free. Info, 356-2776.

theater

'A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM' See THU.04, 7:30 p.m.

'A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC' See WED.03, 8 p.m.

'A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY' See WED.03, 7:30 p.m.

'DIE FALSCHE GÄRTNERIN' Students of Middlebury College Language School's German for Singers program spin the tangled romance of a count and a marchioness in Mozart's *La Finta Giardiniera* sung in German. Town Hall Theater, Middlebury, 8 p.m. $15; free for Middlebury College students and staff. Info, 382-9222.

'LIVING TOGETHER' See THU.04, 8 p.m.

'LOST IN YONKERS' The St. Johnsbury Players dip into the dysfunctional-family genre in Neil Simon's Pulitzer Prize-winning play. Auditorium, St. Johnsbury School, 7:30 p.m. $7-10. Info 748-7121.

'ROMEO AND JULIET 1958' "A rose by any other name" and other famous lines from this tragic teen romance are transported to the mid-20th century in this production by the Poultney Summer Theatre Company's senior division of Shakespeare on Main Street. Ackley Theatre, Green Mountain College, Poultney, 7 p.m. $5-10. Info 287-0158.

'THE FANTASTICKS' Two neighboring fathers plot an elaborate ruse to trick their offspring into marriage in this comic musical presented by Greensboro Arts Alliance & Residency Lakeview Inn, Greensboro; cocktails and dinner, 6 p.m. show, 7:30 p.m. $45 for dinner and show (pre-register); $10-20 for show only. Info, 633-7487, greensboroarts@gmail.com.

'THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES' See WED.03, 8 p.m.

'THE MERCHANT OF VENICE' Twelve local teens from Rutland Youth Theatre present the Bard's tragicomedy about a loan taken out in the name of love. 13 North St., Middletown Springs, 7 p.m. Free; donations accepted. Info, 558-4177.

'WILD PARTY' See WED.03, 8 p.m.

'WOODY GUTHRIE'S AMERICAN SONG See THU.04, 8 p.m.



ZOPPÉ, AN ITALIAN FAMILY CIRCUS See THU.04, 6 p.m.

words

POETRY IN THE BARN Three dynamic poets — Galway Kinnell, Bill Wadsworth and Joan Hutton Landis — read their penned expressions. Phantom Theater, Edgcomb Barn, Warren, 7 p.m. $15; reservations recommended. Info, 496-5937.

SAT.06

activism

SILENT VIGIL Folks commemorate the anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and call for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Meet at the corner of Main and South Prospect streets, Burlington, 8-8:30 a.m. Free. Info, 658-1047.

bazaars

BCA SUMMER ARTIST MARKET Local artisans display contemporary craft and fine-art objects as weather permits. Burlington City Hall Park, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Free. Info, 865-7166, kmacone@ci.burlington.vt.us.

BENEFIT BOOK SALE Six thousand books, CDs, DVDs and videos go for 50 cents each. Proceeds go to the Worcester Community Kitchen Restoration Fund. 8 Elmore Rd., Worcester, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Info, 229-5939.

dance

BALLROOM LESSON & DANCE SOCIAL See FRI.05, 7-10 p.m.

education

GODDARD COLLEGE MA IN INDIVIDUALIZED STUDIES VISITING DAY Prospective students get a first-hand experience of the IMA residency by meeting faculty members and current students. Goddard College, Plainfield, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 468-4888, ext. 21.

environment

MEET THE GREENGROUP Local businesses — including the Green Life, the Green Side, Greenbox, Sesamedia and Insight Landscape Architecture — dole out simple, environmentally friendly solutions for the home and beyond. The Green Life, Burlington, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Info, 881-0833.

etc.

HEAVEN-ON-WHEELS CAR SHOW Proud of your ride? Show it off in a gathering of street rods, muscle cars, tuners, fast cars and classic models. Community Bible Church, South Burlington, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Info, 355-5150.

HISTONIC TOUR OF UVM Folks register online, then meet at Ira Allen's statue to tour the campus' modest early clapboards and grand Victorians, led by professor emeritus William Averyt. University Green, UVM, Burlington, 9-11 a.m. Free. Info, 656-3131.

HISTORIC TOURS. See WED.03, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTUGAL TOUR OF DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON Preservation Burlington guides illuminate interesting nooks and crannies of the Queen City. Meet at the southwest corner of Church and College streets, Burlington, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. $10 suggested donation. Info 522-8259.

HISTONICAL WALKING TOUR Architecture buffs ogle the capital city's historic structures and learn about ongoing historic preservation efforts. Meet at the kiosk on State and Elm streets, Montpelier, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Donations accepted. Info, adamkrakowski@uvm.edu.

mobile

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ISLAND ARTS CRAFT SHOW See THU 04.10 a.m.–4 p.m.

QUEEN CITY GHOSTWALK See FRI 05 8–9 p.m.

fairs & festivals

BURKE MOUNTAIN BIKE 'N' BREW Don't drink and ride — but do raise a glass to microbrews and barbecue before catching a freestyle mountain-bike show. Live music by the Starline Rhythm Boys and athletic endeavors round out the day. Sharburne Lodge, Burke Mountain Ski Resort, 4 p.m. $20 brewfest admission includes souvenir glass and six samples. $5 general admission bike-in to save $5. Info 626-7300.

DEERFIELD VALLEY BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL See WED 03. 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

FESTIVAL OF FOOLS See FRI 05, 12:10 p.m.

MIDD SUMMER FESTIVAL Folks raise a glass at this inaugural celebration of Vermont beer, wine and cheese. The Joshua Panda Band and Spirit Tongue Crow perform. Proceeds benefit the Vermont Foodbank, the Addison County Firefighters Association and the Better Middlebury Partnership. See calendar spotlight. The Marbleworks, Middlebury. 3–7 p.m. $20; $5 for designated drivers and people under 21; free for kids under 6. Info, 388-4126.

PHLOX FEST See WED 03. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

STOWE SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL Storytellers, face painters, musicians and performers demonstrate their crafts at this artsy fête. Various locations, Stowe. 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Free. Info, 253-1818.

VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS See WED 03. 8 a.m.–9 p.m.

VERMONT SUMMER FESTIVAL HORSE SHOWS See WED 03. 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

WHOLE HOG BBQ & MUSIC FESTIVAL Grill fans pig out at a Memphis barbecue Network sanctioned event, featuring serious competition, a beer garden, live music from Crunchy Western Boys and Stone Cold Roosters, and the Ms. Piggie contest. North Haverhill Fairgrounds. 2–8 p.m. $10 includes tasting samples from competing barbecue teams. Info, 757-3244, ext. 367.

film

BEN & JERRY'S OUTDOOR MOVIE FESTIVAL. Moviegoers get a cone fix while watching a flick under the stars at dusk. Ben & Jerry's Factory, Waterbury. 9 p.m. Free. Info, 882-1240.

"INTO ETERNITY" A screening of Michael Madsen's sobering documentary about nuclear waste is followed by an annual candle-boat floating in memory of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Second floor, BCA Center, Burlington. 6–8:30 p.m. Donations accepted. Info, 238-4927.

"LAST STAND FARMER" Filmmaker Richard Brick attends a screening of his 1975 documentary about the rhythms of daily life on a Vermont farm. A Q&A session follows. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. noon. Free. Info, 388-4964.

"LE QUATTRO VOLTE" Michelangelo Frammartino's Italian drama charts the stages of life through a story about an elderly shepherd who tries to heal himself with dust. Loew Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 6:30 p.m. $5.–7; free with Loew Pass. Info, 603-646-2422.

food & drink

BRISTOL FARMERS MARKET Weekly music and kids' activities add to the edible wares of local food and craft vendors. Town Green, Bristol, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Free. Info, 453-6796, bristolfarmers-market@gmail.com.

BURLINGTON FARMERS MARKET Dozens of vendors sell everything from fresh fruits and vegetables to ethnic cuisine to pottery to artisan cheese. Birchwood Coupe delivers the tunes. Burlington City Hall Park, 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Free.

CALEDONIA FARMERS MARKET Growers, crafters and entertainers gather weekly at outdoor stands centered on local eats. 50 Railroad St., St. Johnsbury. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Free.

CAPITAL CITY FARMERS MARKET Fresh produce, perennials, seedlings, home-baked foods and handmade crafts lure local buyers throughout the growing season. 60 State St., Montpelier. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, 223-2958; manager@montpelierfarmersmarket.com.

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO See WED 03. 2 p.m.

ENOSBURG FALLS FARMERS MARKET A more-than-20-year-old bazaar offers herbs, jellies, vegetables and just-baked goodies in the heart of the village. Lincoln Park, Enosburg Falls. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, 933-4503.

GRAND ISLE FARMERS MARKET Shoppers browse through a wide selection of local fruits, veggies and handmade crafts. St. Joseph Church Hall, Grand Isle, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Free. Info, 372-3291.

HOPS IN THE HILLS BEER FESTIVAL & CHICKEN WING CHAMPIONSHIP Local and regional brewers serve up suds as local restos vie for the highly coveted title of "Chicken Wing Champion." The Chris Kleeman Band and Sly Geralds Band play the tunes. Jackson Gore Inn, Okemo Mountain Resort, Ludlow. 1–6 p.m. $20 includes a pint glass and four beer samples. $5 for additional beer tickets. $5–10 for wings. Info, 228-1600.

ISLE LA MOTTE FARMERS MARKET The small town's big bounty includes flowers, fresh produce, baked goods, specialty foods, crafts and more. Meadow View Nursery, Isle La Motte. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, farmersmarket@islelamotte.org.

MIDDLEBURY FARMERS MARKET Crafts, cheeses, breads and veggies vie for spots in shoppers' totes. The Marbleworks, Middlebury. 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Free. Info, 388-0178, middleburyfm@yahoo.com.

MILTON FARMERS MARKET Honey, jams and pies alike tempt seekers of produce, crafts and maple goodies. Milton Grange. 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Free. Info, 893-7734.

MORRISVILLE FARMERS MARKET Foodies stock up on local provender. On the green, Hannaford Supermarket & Pharmacy, Morrisville. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, 888-7053; hbirdfarm@yahoo.com.

MOUNT TOM FARMERS MARKET Purveyors of garden-fresh crops, prepared foods and crafts set up shop for the morning. Mount Tom, Woodstock. 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Free. Info, 763-2070, faxe-farm@aol.com.

NORTHWEST FARMERS MARKET Stock up on local, seasonal produce, garden plants, canned goods and handmade crafts. Taylor Park, St. Albans. 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Free. Info, 373-5021.

NORWICH FARMERS MARKET Neighbors discover fruits, veggies and other riches of the land, not to mention baked goods, handmade crafts and local entertainment. Next to Fogg's Hardware & Building Supply and the Bike Hub, Route 5 South, Norwich. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, 384-7447; manager@norwichfarmersmarket.org.

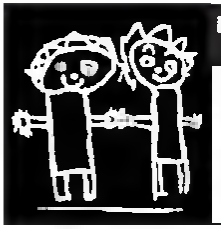
ROAST-PORK SUPPER Eaters pig out at a benefit for the Mount Holly Odd Fellows. Homemade pies are for dessert. Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont. 5 p.m. $5–10. Info, 259-2205.

RUTLAND COUNTY FARMERS MARKET Downtown strollers find high-quality fruits and veggies, mushrooms, fresh-cut flowers, sweet baked goods, and artisan crafts within arms' reach. Depot Park, Rutland. 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Free. Info, 773-4813.

SHELBURNE FARMERS MARKET Harvested fruits and greens, artisan cheeses and local novelties grace outdoor tables at a presentation of the season's best. Shelburne Parade Ground. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, 985-2472; info@shpavt.org.

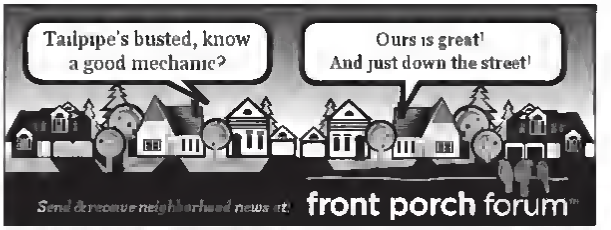
WAITSFIELD FARMERS MARKET Local bands entertain an outdoor outlet for home-grown herbs, flowers and fruits, and handmade breads, cheeses and syrups. Mad River Green, Waitsfield. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, 472-8027 or 498-4734.

SAT.05 » P.48



NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

Trinity Childrens Center admits students of any race color national and ethnic origins to all the rights privileges programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race color national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies admissions policies scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school-administered programs.



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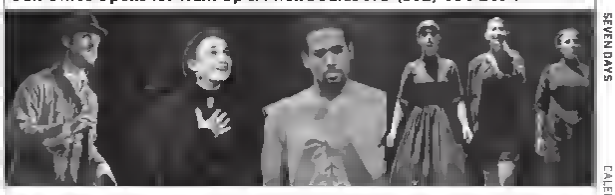
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September 29 - October 9 *Mature subject matter

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By Bertolt Brecht English Translation by Eric Bentley
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SAT 06 « P 47

WILLISTON FARMERS MARKET Shoppers seek prepared foods and unadorned produce at a weekly open-air affair. Town Green, Williston, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info: 735-3860, christinamead@willistonfarmersmarket.com.

health & fitness

TAI CHI QIGONG & MEDITATION Richard and Nancy Brown share simple Chinese exercises to increase your flexibility, tone your body and relieve stress. Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield, 10 a.m.-noon. $20. Info: 496-9007.

kids

BERKSHIRE TUMBLE TIME. Provided snacks fuel exercise for tots. Gym, Berkshire Elementary School, 9:30-11 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

'CHAMP' UNSOLVED MYSTERY OF THE LAKE' Parents and kids ponder the facts and legends surrounding Lake Champlain's famous "monster." ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington, 12:30 p.m. Regular admission, $8.50-12.50; free for kids 2 and under. Info: 877-324-6386.

FAIRFAX PLAYGROUP The community playground encourages child's play. Canceled in the event of rain. Bellows Free Academy, Fairfax, 10-11 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

READ TO A DOG Stories form a bond between young readers and Therapy Dogs of Vermont. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 10-11 a.m. Free. Info: 863-3403.

'THE LITTLE MERMAID AND THE PRINCE' See FRI 05, 2 p.m. & 5 p.m.

'THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA' See FRI 05, 10 a.m.

music

BADFISH: A TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME A beer garden, foods from the grill and outdoor lawn games accompany live tunes at the Cooler in the Mountains concert series. See calendar spotlight. K-1 Lodge, Killington Grand Resort Hotel, 3:30-6 p.m. Free. Info: 422-2146.

BEACH HOUSE ON THE MOUNTAIN: NEW ENGLAND TROP ROCK FESTIVAL See FRI 05, 10 a.m.-11 p.m.

GREGGORY DOUGLASS & MYRA FLYNN Two Vermont singer-songwriters share the stage. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, Stowe Mountain Resort, 8 p.m. $16. Info: 760-4634.

KILLINGTON MUSIC FESTIVAL. In "Three Artists, Four Composers," musicians offer a program of works by Bach, Mozart, Hindemith and Beethoven. Ramshead Lodge, Killington Resort, 7 p.m. $20. Info: 773-4003.

LYRA SUMMER MUSIC STUDENT GALA CONCERT The student musicians of a piano-and-strings summer intensive share what they've learned. Chandler Music Hall, Randolph, 1 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation. Info: 728-6464.

MARLBORO MUSIC See FRI 05, 8:30 p.m.

MINI KISS Don your best '80s costume for a concert by the Kiss tribute band made up of little people. A meet and greet with the bandmates follows the show. Board the Adirondack Ferry at the King Street Ferry Dock, Burlington, at 7:30 p.m.; cruise departs at 8 p.m. $35; cash bar. Info: 864-9669.

RHINOFEST See FRI 05, 10 a.m.

THE CONRAD SAMUELS BAND Musicians sound off and listeners tuck into a summery spread of burgers, fries and hot dogs. Moose Lodge, St. Albans, 7-11 p.m. $5. Info: 527-1327.

THE PIPERS' GATHERING CONCERTS This annual festival is one of the largest gatherings of bellows-blown bagpipers in North America. Listen to world-class instructors in an evening concert. Champlain College, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. $15; free for kids under 12. Info: 610-792-4737.

outdoors

THE GREAT VERMONT CORN MAZE. See WED 03, 10 a.m.

seminars

VERMONT ALTERNATIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION RACKSHOP A sex-ed workshop illuminates the ins and outs of massage as a service and single tail whips. Practice time included. Various locations, Williamstown, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. $20; includes lunch; preregister for directions. Info: 881-4968, vtkink@gmail.com.

sport

GOLF TOURNAMENT Players take a swing at the green in this benefit for cancer aid and research organized by the Ladies Auxiliary VFW Essex Country Club, registration 8 a.m., shotgun entry 9 a.m. $85; includes lunch and chicken barbecue dinner; preregister. Info: 578-5995.

KINGDOM TRIATHLON Athletes show their strength in three sports in the Aquaman Even Up Triathlon, the shorter Olive Even Up and the more traditional Sprint. IROC (Indoor Recreation of Orleans County), Derby, 8 a.m., $75-300. Info: 334-8511.



MOUNTAIN BIKE EPIC RACE & RIDE & TRAIL RUN Competitors earn a post-race barbecue by completing a 40K bike course and 10K trail run. Proceeds benefit the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum. Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe, 10 a.m. $20 for trail run, $30 for ride/tour and mountain-bike relay; $40 for mountain bike race. Info: 253-9911, ext. 201.

SPARTAN BEAST A 10- to 12-mile obstacle course tests warriors' strength, stamina, ingenuity and animal instinct. Partial proceeds go to Homes for Our Troops. Snowshed Base Lodge, Killington Grand Resort Hotel, 9 a.m. $105-125; preregister. Info: spartanrace.com.

theater

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM' See THU 04, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC' See WED 03, 8 p.m.

A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY' See WED 03, 7:30 p.m.

AS YOU LIKE IT' See THU 04, 2 p.m.

'DIE FALSCHE GÄRTNERIN' See FRI 05, Vergennes Opera House. Free; reservations recommended. Info: 877-6737.

'LIVING TOGETHER' See THU 04, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

'LOST IN YONKERS' See FRI 05, 7:30 p.m.

'ROMEO AND JULIET 1958' See FRI 05, 7 p.m.

'THE FANTASTICKS' See FRI 05, 7:30 p.m.

'THE LOUDEST MAN ON EARTH' A deaf theater director and his quirky sidekick navigate references to Koko the signing gorilla and more in this offbeat romantic comedy, a work-in-progress play presented by the New York Theatre Workshop. Warner Bentley Theater, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 8 p.m., $5-10. Info: 603-646-2422.

'THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO' Wedding-day commotion is at the heart of Mozart's beloved comic opera, presented by Opera North. Lebanon Opera House, N.H., 7:30 p.m. $25-85. Info: 603-448-4141.

'THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES' See WED 03, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.



'THE MERCHANT OF VENICE'. See FRI 05, Town Hall, Wallingford, 2 p.m., and West Rutland Town Hall, 7 p.m.

'UNRAVEL: THEATRE, DANCE, SONG AND LAUGHTER' This informal show is filled with a little of this, a little of that, and some "(Invisible) Improvisation." Burlington Dances, Chace Mill, Burlington, 7 p.m. $10. Info: 863-3369.

'WILD PARTY' See WED 03, 8 p.m.

'WILD WITH HAPPY' Broadway star Colman Domingo plays a man planning to scatter his mother's ashes at Disney World in this work-in-progress piece by the New York Theatre Workshop. Warner Bentley Theater, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 5 p.m. $5-10. Info: 603-646-2422.

'WOODY GUTHRIE'S AMERICAN SONG' See THU 04, 8 p.m.

ZOPPÉ: AN ITALIAN FAMILY CIRCUS' See THU 04, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

SUN.07

bazaars

BENEFIT BOOK SALE See SAT 06, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

dance

ISRAELI DANCE Movers bring clean, soft-soled shoes and learn traditional circle or line dances. Partners not required. Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, Burlington, 7:25-9:30 p.m. $2; free to first-timers. Info: 888-5706, portico@stowevt.net.

etc.

2011 NEW ENGLAND 'LIVING' SHOW HOUSE Interior designers and landscape architects have artfully redesigned this 20th-century B&B. Tour it to help raise money for seven charities. Juniper Hill Inn, Windsor, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. $25. Info, 674-5273.

CAMERA WALKS AT SHELBURNE MUSEUM Shutterbugs bring their own cameras while wandering the grounds with professional photographers as their guides. Shelburne Museum, 9:30-10:30 a.m. $10-15; preregister. Info: 985-3346.

HISTORIC TOURS See WED 03, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

SUMMER DOG PARTY Pet owners continue the tradition started by Vermont artist Stephen Huneck with a fête of doggy dancing, a hot dog barbecue, dog/human look-alike contest and more. Stephen Huneck Gallery and Dog Chapel, St. Johnsbury, noon-4 p.m. Free. Info: 800-449-2580, info@dogvt.com.

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS AT FISK FARM An outdoor garden party includes refreshments and tea on the lawn, art and craft exhibits, and musical performances. Fisk Farm Art Center, Isle La Motte, 1-5 p.m. Free. Info: 928-3364.

fairs & festivals

DEERFIELD VALLEY BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL. See WED 03, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

FESTIVAL OF FOOLS See FRI 05, noon-8 p.m.

PHLOX FEST See WED 03, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS See WED 03, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

VERMONT SUMMER BOOK & EPHEMERA FAIR Bookworms delight in an ice-skating rink full of quirky and collectible tomes, as well as antique maps, prints and postcards. Living Memorial Park Skating Rink, Brattleboro, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Info: 464-8438.

VERMONT SUMMER FESTIVAL HORSE SHOWS See WED 03, 8 a.m., 4 p.m.



film

'SUPER 8' After witnessing a train crash while shooting a home movie, a group of friends suspect something's amiss in this sci-fi thriller from J.J. Abrams. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 7 p.m. $5-7; free with Dartmouth Film Society pass. Info: 603-646-2422.

food & drink

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO See WED 03, 2 p.m.

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Fuel up at the most important meal of the day, organized by the Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post, Essex Junction, 9-11 a.m. $3-7. Info: 878-0700.

RAW DAIRY PROCESSING CLASS Got milk? Learn how to make butter, fromage blanc and ricotta in a workshop benefiting Rural Vermont. Earthwise Farm & Forest, Bethel, 1-4 p.m. $20-40, sliding scale fee; preregister. Info: 223-7222, shalley@ruralvermont.org.

STOWE FARMERS MARKET Preserves, produce and other provender attract fans of local food. Ed Bam Shops Field, Stowe, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Info: 472-8027 or 498-4734, info@stowevtfarmersmarket.com.

WINDOSKI FARMERS MARKET Area growers and bakers offer "more than just wild leeks." On the green, Champlain Mill, Winooski, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info: winooskimarket@gmail.com.

games

TEXAS HOLD 'EM TOURNAMENT Put on your poker face and engage in some charitable gaming. Moose Lodge, St. Albans, 1 p.m. $42 buy-in at noon. Info, 527-1327.

kids

'CHAMP: UNSOLVED MYSTERY OF THE LAKE' See SAT 06, 12:30 p.m.

READ TO A DOG See SAT 06, 1-2 p.m.

'THE LITTLE MERMAID AND THE PRINCE' See FRI 05, 2 p.m.

'THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA' See FRI 05, 10 a.m. & noon.

language

FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP Intermediate and advanced speakers of français use their words. Uncommon Grounds, Burlington, 4 p.m. Free. Info: 347-568-4336, kevin@electrachemistry.be.

music

BURLINGTON CONCERT BAND A local ensemble takes over the band shell with pop, jazz, show tunes and classical music. Battery Park, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 598-1830.

CONCERTS ON THE GREEN Local bands bring tunes to a grassy setting. Rain location: Danville United Methodist Church, Town Green, Danville, 7-9 p.m. Donations accepted. Info: 626-8511.

mobile

BROWSE LOCAL EVENTS ON YOUR PHONE!

CONNECT TO M.SEVENDAYSVT.COM ON ANY WEB-ENABLED CELLPHONE FOR FREE UP-TO-THE-MINUTE CALENDAR EVENTS, PLUS OTHER NEARBY RESTAURANTS, CLUB DATES, MOVIE THEATERS AND MORE.

DILLER-QUAILE STRING DUARTET A longstanding chamber ensemble moves from Joseph Haydns *Emperor Quartet* to the Vermont premiere of Benjamin Brittens *Three Poems*. Pratt Hall, Montgomery Center. 5 p.m. $10. 12. Info 326-4528.

JAZZ BRUNCH Anthony Senter and friends add pep to a m onday meat. Big Picture Theater & Café, Wartsfield, 11 a.m. 2 p.m. $5. cost of food and drink. Info, 496-8994.

MARLBORO MUSIC See FRI 05. 2.30 p.m.

NORTHEAST FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION Stringed-instrument players gather for a monthly jam. Knights of Columbus Hall, Barre, noon-5 p.m. Donations accepted. Info, 728-5188.

RHINOFEST See FRI 05. 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

ST LAWRENCE STRING DUARTET The wond class chamber ensemble skillfully interprets mesterworks by Haydn, Beethoven and Schubert. Federated Church, Rochester. preconcert talk, 3:30 p.m. concert, 4 p.m. Donations accepted. Info 767 9234.

SUNDAYS ON THE HILL CONCERT SERIES For the 15th year, leading professional artists highlight a sequence of six classical programs. Church on the Hill, Weston, 4 p.m. $5. Info. info@vtchurchonthehill.org.

THE PIPERS' GATHERING CONCERTS See SAT 06. 7:30 p.m.

THEY MIGHT BE GYPSIES A father son band plays on the green to celebrate the release of a new CD. Rendezvous. Rob Morse and Scott Kessel join m on bass and drums. Rochester Park, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 767 3631.

outdoors

THE GREAY VERMONT CORN MAZE. See WED 03. 10 a.m.

sport

LAKE CHAMPLAIN DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL Water bound teams of local businesses, neighbor hoods and organizations repre sent breast-cancer survivors while paddling their way to victory on 41-foot boats. Proceeds benefit the new Survivorship NOW Initiative. Watarfrant Park, Burlington, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fraa for spectators. Info 998 5478.

M&M BEVERAGE ENDURO 200 Over 100 slightly modified street cars driven by amateurs run laps around the track. Thunder Road Speed Bowl, Barre, 6:30 p.m. $3-10; $20 per family of four. Info, 244-6963.

VERMONT LAKE MONSTERS The Green Mountain State s minor league basebell team bats against the Tri-City Valleycats. Centannial Field, Burlington, 1:05 p.m. Indiv dual game tick ets, $5-8. Info 655-4200.

WOMEN'S ADULT DROP-IN SUNDAY SOCCER Ladies — and sometimes gents — break a sweat while passing around the spherical polyhedron at this coed-friendly gathering. Beginners are welcome. Rain location: Miller Community Recreation Center. Starr Farm Dog Park, Burlington. 6-8 p.m. $3. Info 862-5091.

talks

ANNE DELLENBAUGH Drawing on her own experiences, the visiting scholar speaks about "The Diamond of Consciousness: Reflections on the Nature of Embodied Consciousness." Haybarn Theater, Goddard College, Plainfield. 7:30-9 p.m. Free. Info 454-8311.

GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE MORNING SPEAKER SERIES In "The Electric Drive Revolution," Steve Letendre sums up his work studying the grid impacts of a growing fleet of plug-in hybrids and electric vehicles. Sissy's Kitchen, Middletown Springs, 4-5 p.m. Free. Info 287 8926.

theater

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM See THU 04, 3 p.m.

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC See WED 03, 8 p.m.

BREAD AND PUPPET CIRCUS & PAGEANT Museum tours and street style shows accompany the Man=Carret Circus and the Uprisers' Pageant. Bread and Puppet Theater, Glover. 1 p.m. Donations accepted. Info. 525-3031.

LIVING TOGETHER' See THU 04. 5 p.m.

ROMEO AND JULIET 1956 See FRI 05. 2 p.m.

THE FANTASTICKS' See FRI 05. 7:30 p.m.

WOODY GUTHRIE'S AMERICAN SONG' See THU 04. 7 p.m.

ZOPPÉ. AN ITALIAN FAMILY CIRCUS See THU 04. 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

MON.08

dance

SWING DANCE CLASS Work on lindy-hop variations in separate lessons for beginners and intermediate dancers, followed by tunes and an open dance floor. Warren Public Library. 7:15-9:30 p.m. $10 suggested donation. Info 496-7014, gilianwd@yahoo.com.



etc.

2011 NEW ENGLAND 'LIVING' SHOW HOUSE See SUN 07. noon-3 p.m.

HISTORIC TOURS See WED 03. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

fairs & festivals

VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS See WED 03. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

food & drink

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO See WED 03. 2 p.m.

THETFORD FARMERS MARKET Quilts and crafts supplement edible offerings of fruits and vegetables, honey pastries, maple syrup, and more. Thetford Hill Green. 4-6 p.m. Free. Info 785-4404.

TOP CHEF OF THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY Foodies feast on gourmet appetizers and local wines and beers while watching chefs — from Leunig's Bistro & Café, the Essex Resort & Spa, and 3 Squares Café — compete in a cook off. Proceeds benefit the Champlain Valley Agency on Aging. Davis Center, UVM, Burlington. 6-8:30 p.m. $35. Info, 865-0360.

kids

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: THE '40S MUSICAL See WED 03, Charlotte Community Library. 2 p.m.

CHAMP: UNSOLVED MYSTERY OF THE LAKE' See SAT 06. 12:30 p.m.

DRAW COMICS!' Teens sketch and share illustrated narratives. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 3-4:30 p.m. Free. Info 865-7216.

ISLE LA MOTTE PLAYGROUP Children ages 5 and under take over the playground. Isle La Motte Elementary School, 10-11:30 a.m. Free. Info $27 5426.

MAGIC SHOW Triumphant summer readers rejoice in their accomplishments at a comedy-and-tricks act by Tom Joyce. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 5:30 p.m. Free. Info 878-4918.

MARSHFIELD PLAY TIME Games, projects and art from around the world amuse kids up to age 6. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Free. Info 426-3581, jaquithpubliclibrary@hotmail.com.

MARSHFIELD STORY TIME Read-aloud tales with a cross-cultural theme catch the ear of young sters ages 5 and under. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. 10 a.m. Free. Info, 426-3581, jaquithpubliclibrary@hotmail.com.

MUSIC WITH RAPHAEL. See THU 04. 10:45 a.m.

STORIES WITH MEGAN Preschoolers ages 3 to 5 expand their rmagi nations through storytelling, songs and rhymes. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 11-11:30 a.m. Free. Info 865-7216.

TALES TO TAILS Children practice their read-aloud skills in front of pooches. Rutland Free Library. 4 p.m. Free. Info 773-1860.

music

CASPIAN MORDAY MUSIC Pianist Kathryn Sebol charms the ivory keys at a vocal concert of works by Mozart, Saint-Saëns, Strauss and others. Lakeview Inn, Greensboro, 8 p.m. $10-18; free for children. Info. 617-282-8605.

VERGENNES CITY BAND A brass band welcomes musicians of all ages at an outdoor concert of gazebo faves. Vergennes City Park. 7 p.m. Free. Info 877 2006.

outdoors

THE GREAT VERMONT CORN MAZE. See WED 03. 10 a.m.

sport

GROUP ROAD BIKE RIDE Cyclists pedal in and around Burlington on a 20- to 25-mile excursion. Helmets required. Skirack, Burlington. 5:30-7 p.m. Free. Info, 658-3313.

VERMONT LAKE MONSTERS. See SUN 07. 7:05 p.m.

theater

AUDITIONS FOR 'MIDDLEBURY'S GOT TALENT' Thosa with a flair for the center stage sign up for an audition slot. Town Hall Theater, Middlebury. 7 p.m. Free. Info. 388 1436, dandersan@townhall-theater.org.

AUDITIONS FOR 'RUMORS' The Little City Players seek male and female actors for Neil Simon's comic play about social class. Vergennes Opera House. 7-9 p.m. Free. Info. 870-8677.

'SWEENEY TODD' Gothic gore fuels Stephen Sondheim's dark musical masterpiece about "The Demon Barber of Fleet Street," presented by Pendragon Theatre. Lake Placid Center for the Arts, N.Y. 8 p.m. $22-25. Info, 518-523-2512.

words

MARJORIE CADY MEMORIAL WRITERS' GROUP Budding wordsmiths improva their craft through "homework" assignments, cra tive exercises and sharing. Tisley Public Library, Middlebury. 10 a.m.-noon. Free. Info 388 2926, cpotter935@comcast.net.

TUE.09

agriculture

WATER CHESTNUT PULL See THU.04. 8 a.m. 2 p.m.

environment

GREEN DRINKS Activists and professionals for a cleaner environment raise a glass over networking and discussion. The Skinny Pancake, Montpelier. 6-8 p.m. Free. Info. 262 2253.

etc.

2011 NEW ENGLAND 'LIVING' SHOW HOUSE. See SUN 07. noon-3 p.m.

GENEALOGY-DAY CELEBRATION Into ancestry? Discover your roots at this annual event promoting lineage tracing as a hobby. Holy Cross Parish Hall, Colchester. noon-8 p.m. Free. Info. 425-4929.

HISTORIC TOURS See WED 03. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

NAGASAKI ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE A vigil marks the anniversary of the atomic bombing. Meet at the bell tower on the corner of Cherry and St. Paul streets, Burlington, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Info. 238-4927.

RADIO AMATEURS OF NORTHERN VERMONT HAM RADIO CLUB MEETING Burlington area radio operators present on a different aspect of ratire communications each month. O'Brien Civic Center, South Burlington. 7-9 p.m. Free. Info. 879-6589.

TIME-TRAVEL TUESDAY Visitors cook on a woodstove, churn butter and tend a hand with other late 19th-century farmhouse chores and pastimes. Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Regular admission, $3-12. Info, 457 2355.

fairs & festivals

ADDISON COUNTY FAIR & FIELD DAYS Vermont's largest agricultural fair hosts horse, miniature-donkey and sheep shows, tractor pulls, kiddie rides and live entertainment. Addison County Fairgrounds, Vergennes. 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m. $2-10; $30 season pass; free for ages 5 and under. Info $45-2557.

PHLOX FEST See WED 03. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS See WED 03. 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

WINTER IN AUGUST CELEBRATION Sick of summer? Trp your hat to local ski areas at this annual event, featuring local restaurants specialties in the Taste of Vermont. Ram location: Diamond Run Mall, Center Street, Rutland. 5-8 p.m. $10. Info, 773-2747.

film

BEN & JERRY'S OUTDOOR MOVIE FESTIVAL Moviegoers get a cone fix while watch ng *Toy Story 3* under the stars at dusk. Ben & Jerry's, Burlington, 8 p.m. Free. Info, 882 1240.

food & drink

A MIDSUMMER EVENING TASTING Chef/instructor Donna Vartanian dishes out appetizers while shoppers sample a variety of wines. Healthy Living, South Burlington. 5-8 p.m. Free. Info 863-2569, ext. 1.

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO See WED 03. 2 p.m.

JOHNSON FARMERS MARKET A street emporium bursts with local agricultural products, ranging from produce to herbs to freshly baked bread. United Church, Johnson. 3-6 p.m. Free. Info 635-1682.

OLD NORTH END FARMERS MARKET Local farmers sell the fruits of their fields and their labor. Integrated Arts Academy H.O. Wheeler Elementary School, Burlington. 3-5:30 p.m. Free. Info. 324-3073.

RUTLAND COUNTY FARMERS MARKET See SAT 06. 3-6 p.m.

health & fitness

LAUGHTER YOGA What's so funny? Giggles burst out as gentle aerobic exercise and yogic breathing meet unconditional laughter to enhance physical, emotional and spiritual health and well being. Miller Community and Recreation Center, Burlington. 5 p.m. Free. Info. 355-5129.

MORNING MEDITATION See WED 03, 7 a.m.

kids

'CHAMP' UNSOLVED MYSTERY OF THE LAKE' See SAT 05. 12:30 p.m.

CREATIVE TUESDAYS Artists engage their imaginations with recycled crafts. Kids under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 3-5 p.m. Free. Info. 865-7216.

TUE.09 « P.49

MORNING PLAYGROUP Astrologer Mary Anna Abuzahra leads "botanically inspired story telling" before-art activities, games and a walk. Tulsi Tea Room, Montpelier. 10 a.m.-noon. Free. Info 223-0043.

MUSIC WITH ROBERT The host of a weekly folk and world music show on VPR explores tunes with music lovers of all ages. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 11-11:30 a.m. Free. Info 865-7216.

SOUTH HERO PLAYGROUP Free play, crafting and snacks entertain children and their grown-up companions. South Hero Congregational Church, 10:11 a.m. Free. Info 527-5426.

STORY HOUR Tales and picture books catch the attention of little tykes. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 11 a.m. Free. Info 878-4918.

STORY TIME FOR TOTS Three- to 5-year-olds savor stories, songs, crafts and company. Carpenter Carse Library, Hinesburg. 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Info 482-2878.

STORY TIME IN THE NESTLINGS' NOOK Preschoolers take flight in bird-themed craft, book, music and nature activities. Birds of Vermont Museum, Huntington. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Free with regular admission: $3-6. Info, 434-2167, museum@birdsofvermont.org.

VERY MERRY THEATRE'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER Catch a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The 40s Musical while supporting the youth-theater group's All Children Take Center Stage Initiatives. Shelburne Farms. 5:30 p.m. $25 suggested donation; seating is limited. Info, 863-6607.

language

PAUSE CAFÉ French speakers of all levels converse en français. Uncommon Grounds, Burlington. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info 864-5086.

music

CATS UNDER THE STARS Vermont's Jerry Garcia tribute band performs in front of a video projection of music documentary *Anthem to Beauty*. Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield. 7:30 p.m. $5. Info, 496-8984.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CHORUS Men who like to sing learn four-part harmonies at an open meeting of this all-guy barbershop group. St. Francis Xavier School, Winooski. 7-9:30 p.m. Free. Info 505-9595.

SORGS AT MIRROR LAKE Zach Deputy offers "gospel ninja soul" at a weekly musical gathering. Mid's Park, Lake Placid, N.Y. 7 p.m. Free. Info 518-523-8925.

SUMMER MUSIC FROM GREENSBORO The celebrated Borromeo Quartet performs works for strings. United Church of Christ, Greensboro, 8 p.m. $10-18; free for children under 12. Info, $25-3291.

TUESDAY-NIGHT LIVE The Joshua Panda Band offer country soul in the open air. The Johnson Historical Society serves up slices of homemade pie. Rain site: Johnson Elementary School. Legion Field, Johnson. 6-8:30 p.m. Free. Info 635-7826, cat_05656@yahoo.com.

outdoors

THE GREAT VERMONT CORN MAZE See WED.03, 10 a.m.

seminars

START SMART' TIPS FOR BUYING YOUR FIRST CAR Young adults seeking a set of wheels and their parents learn where to search and shop, and how to negotiate the end purchase. New England Federal Credit Union, Williston. 5:30-7 p.m. Free. Info 879-8790.

talks

AMY MILLER In "Cultivating True Happiness Through Establishing a Practice," the director of the Milarepa Center offers a fun and relaxed approach to spiritual practice through meditation and discussion. Milarepa Center, Barnet. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Donations accepted. Info, 633-4136.

VOLUNTEERS FOR PEACE Volunteers from around the world spark a discussion of nuclear issues in their communities. Friends Meeting House, Burlington. 7-9 p.m. Free. Info 238-4927.

theater

'A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM' See THU.04. 7:30 p.m.

'A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY' See WED.03. 7:30 p.m.

'AUDITIONS FOR RUMORS' See MON.08. 7-9 p.m.

'SWEENEY TODD' See MON.08. 8 p.m.

'THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES' See WED.03. 8 p.m.

words

CHRISTIAN PARENTI. The author of *Tropic of Chaos: Climate Change and the New Geography of Violence* connects the dots between global warming and violence: the humanitarian crisis and social breakdown. Barnes & Noble, South Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info 864-8001.

WED.10

community

WINOOSKI COALITION FOR A SAFE AND PEACEFUL COMMUNITY Neighbors and local businesses help create a thriving Onion City by planning community events, sharing resources, networking and more. O'Brien Community Center, Winooski. 3:30-4:45 p.m. Free. Info, 655-1392 ext. 10.

conferences

BREAD LOAF WRITERS' CONFERENCE Lit lovers gather at the oldest conference of its kind. The 10-day run includes workshops, lectures, classes and readings related to writing. Bread Loaf Campus, Ripton. 8:15 p.m. Lectures and readings are free and open to the public; see middlebury.edu/for schedule. Info 443-5286 or 443-2700.

crafts

KNIT NIGHT Crafty needleworkers (crocheters, too) share their talents and company as they give yarn a makeover. Phoenix Books, Essex. 6-8 p.m. Free. Info 872-7111.

dance

LEARN AN AFRICAN DANCE Jorban Mensah and drummers teach the traditional West African kuku. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info 426-3581, jaquithpublicbrary@hotmail.com.

environment

'GREENING YOUR HOME' Reps from Central Vermont Public Service talk about reducing electric usage with the statewide SmartGrid initiative. Rutland Free Library. 6 p.m. Free. Info 773-1860.

etc.

COMMUNITY BIKE SNOB See WED.03. 5-6 p.m.

HISTORIC TOURS See WED.03. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

PLATTSBURGH HEART WALK KICKOFF Interested parties learn more about the October event that raises money to fight heart disease and stroke. Geoffrey's Pub, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 5-7 p.m. Free. Info 518-869-4047, sonja.seeloff@heart.org.

fairs & festivals

ADDISON COUNTY FAIR & FIELD DAYS See TUE.09. 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

PHLOXFEST See WED.03. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS See WED.03. 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

VERMONT SUMMER FESTIVAL HORSE SHOWS See WED.03. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

film

'KEY LARGO' When gangster Johnny Rocco holds up a family-owned hotel in this 1948 film noir from John Huston, a disillusioned army vet (played by Humphrey Bogart) becomes the reluctant hero. Loew Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. 7 p.m. $5-7; free with Dartmouth Film Society pass. Info 603-646-2422.

'THE NIGHT OF THE SHOOTING STARS' This 1982 Italian drama is set during World War II on the Night of San Lorenzo, or the Perseid meteor showers — supposedly a night when dreams come true. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. 7 p.m. Free. Info 426-3581, jaquithpublicbrary@hotmail.com.

food & drink

BARRE FARMERS MARKET See WED.03. 3-6:30 p.m.

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO See WED.03. 2 p.m.

LAWN PARTY & CHICKEN BARBECUE Food from the grill is supplied with all the fixings at this village gathering also including a pie contest and games. Village Green, Bristol. 5 p.m. Cost of food and drink. Info, 453-2488.

SOUTH NERO FARMERS MARKET See WED.03. 4-7 p.m.

SUN TO CHEESE TOURS Visitors take a behind-the-scenes look at dairy farming and cheese making as they observe raw milk turning into farmhouse cheddar. Preregister. Shelburne Farms, 2-4 p.m. $15. Includes a block of cheese. Info, 985-8686.

WOODSTOCK FARMERS MARKET See WED.03. 3-6 p.m.

health & fitness

MORNING MEDITATION See WED.03. 7-8 a.m.

kids

'A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: THE 40S MUSICAL See WED.03, Battery Park, Burlington. noon.

'CHAMP: UNSOLVED MYSTERY OF THE LAKE' See SAT.06. 12:30 p.m.

CRAFTSBURY CHAMBER PLAYERS MINI CONCERTS See WED.03. 4:30 p.m.

CULTURE FEST Summer readers are rewarded with a diverse array of entertainment and snacks, plus certificates and prizes. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Info 865-7216.

ENDSBURG PLAYGROUP See WED.03. 9-11 a.m.

language

ITALIAN CONVERSATION GROUP *Parla italiano?* A native speaker leads a language practice for all ages and abilities. Room 101, St. Edmund's Hall, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 7-9 p.m. Free. Info 893-3669.

music

CAPITAL CITY BAND See WED.03. 7 p.m.

COLIN MCCAFFREY The multi-instrumentalist plays songs steeped in American folk traditions. @ Side Playground, Little River State Park, Waterbury. 7 & 8:30 p.m. $2-3; free for kids under 4; call to confirm. Info, 244-7103.

CRAFTSBURY CHAMBER PLAYERS World-class musicians explore classical compositions by Martinu, Shostakovich and Smetena. UVM Recital Hall, Burlington. 8 p.m. $8-22; free for ages 12 and under. Info, 800-639-3443.

LAURA OUIMETTE & MITCHELL DRURY The pianist and violinist bring to life classical dance music, including "Songs From Home and Abroad" by the likes of Gershwin, Copland, Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov. Vergennes Opera House. 7 p.m. $7; free for children 12 and under. Info 877-6737.

MUSIC ON THE PORCH Jenni Johnson lends jazz, blues and funk stylings to a picnic on the porch. Waterbury Station, Green Mountain Coffee Visitor Center & Café, Waterbury. 6-7:30 p.m. Free; nonperishable food-item donations accepted for the Waterbury Food Shelf. Info, 882-2700.

STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS See WED.03. 8:30-9:30 p.m.

VILLAGE HARMONY TEEN WORLD MUSIC ENSEMBLE Singers perform music traditions from around the world. The White Church, Grafton. 7:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation. Info, 387-5694.

outdoors

THE GREAT VERMONT CORN MAZE See WED.03, 10 a.m.

WAGON RIDE WEDNESDAY See WED.03, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

seminars

COMMUNITY HERB WORKSNOB In "Earth-Centered Herbalism," Sage Mountain head gardener Micki Visten identifies plants and their medicinal uses on a nature walk. Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism, Montpelier. 6-8 p.m. $10-12; preregister. Info, 224-7100.

talks

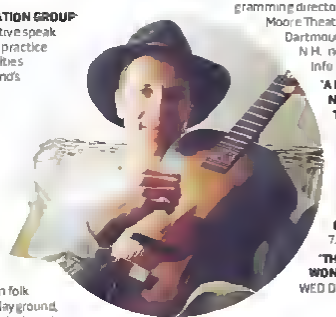
GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE MORNING SPEAKER SERIES Professor and international-ally renowned photographer Kevin Bubrisk puts "A Lens on Nepal" in a photographic presentation of the country. The Station, Poultney. 9-10 a.m. Free. Info, 287-8926.

INSTITUTE FOR LIFELONG EDUCATION AT DARTMOUTH SUMMER LECTURE SERIES See WED.03. 9 a.m.-noon.

YESTERMORROW SUMMER LECTURE SERIES Author Steve Kellert and local filmmaker Bill Finnegan oversee a screening of *Biophilic Design: The Architecture of Life*. A Q&A session follows. Yestermorrow Design/Build School, Waitsfield. 7-9 p.m. Free. Info, 496-5545.

theater

2011-12 SEASON PREVIEW Sample the sights and sounds of the Hops upcoming performing-arts season in a multimedia presentation by programming director Margaret Lawrence. Moore Theater, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. noon & 5:30 p.m. Free. Info, 603-646-2422.



'A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM' See THU.04. 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

'A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC' See WED.03. 8 p.m.

'A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY' See WED.03. 7:30 p.m.

'THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES' See WED.03. 8 p.m. ⑦

classes

THE FOLLOWING CLASS LISTINGS ARE PAID ADVERTISEMENTS. ANNOUNCE YOUR CLASS FOR AS LITTLE AS **$13.75/WEEK** (INCLUDES SIX PHOTOS AND UNLIMITED DESCRIPTION ONLINE). SUBMIT YOUR CLASS AD AT **SEVENDAYSVT.COM/POSTCLASS**

acting

COMEDY & ACTING CLASS Location: Diversity Studios Burlington Info: Theresa MCDonough, 985-2787 theresaldavis@yahoo.com. Diversity Studios offers acting, comedy and music lessons starting soon. August 8-12 is Teen Standup, 1:00-2:30 p.m., and Teen Musical Theater 2:30-4:30 p.m. Assistance available. Located at 115 College St., Burlington.

building

TINY-HOUSE RAISING Cost: $250/workshop. Location: TBA, Waterville and Richmond. Info: Peter King, 933-6103. A crew of beginners will help instructor Peter King frame and sheath a 16x20 tiny house August 13 and 14 in Waterville and a 12x12 on September 17 and 18 in Richmond.

communication

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT: DELSARTE Aug. 6, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Cost: $95/course ($85 w/ early registration). Location: Burlington Dances, 1 Mill Street, suite 372, Burlington. Info: Burlington Dances, Lucille Dyer, 863-3369, info@BurlingtonDances.com, BurlingtonDances.com. Personal development for theapists, coaches and health care professionals. Communication studies with Delsarte teacher Joe Williams are simple, nonc ultural and based on organic architecture. Mirror neuron principles invoked in the workshop awaken inner resonance with movement patterns, enabling therapeutic professionals to combine the analytical and the intuitive in their work.

craft

PAPER MARBLING FOR KIDS AND ADULTS Aug. 12, 1-4 p.m. Cost: $45/3-hr. class. Location: Helen Day Art Center, 5 School St., Stowe. Info: 253-8358, helenday.com. Learn the Italian art of paper decoration. The marbling process is as fun as it is easy for anyone to do. It involves floating paint on top of water and swirling designs that are then transferred onto specially treated paper. Students will create a number of decorated papers to use for stationary, collage, wrapping paper, scrap booking and more. All materials included. Instructor: Natasha Bogar.

cycling

GIRLS MOVE MOUNTAINS Aug. 14, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: $95/class. Location: Millstone Hill, Montpelier. Info: 229-2976, info@girlsmovemountains.org. Girls Move Mountains in partnership with Millstone Touring and Onion River Sports is pleased to offer a one-day Dirt Divas mountain bike clinic for women, ages 16 and up, who are interested in learning the exciting, lifelong sport of mountain biking.

dance

BALLET & BALANCED PHYSIQUE Ballet Barre: Wed., 5:45-7 p.m., & Sat. Studio Class: 10:45. Location: Burlington Dances, 1 Mill St., suite 372, Burlington. Info: 863-3369, lucille@naturalbodiespilates.com, NaturalBodiesPilates.com. Perfect for beginning-level students, Ballet Barre is taught by classically trained teachers for the experience of elegance, personal growth and fun. One of the best ways to condition the body for any eventuality, the Saturday Studio Class draws upon the wisdom and traditions of ballet dancers for a balanced physique.

BURLINGTON MODERN DANCE Location: Burlington Dances, 1 Mill St., 372, Burlington. Info: Burlington Dances, Lucilla Dyer 863-3369, Info@BurlingtonDances.com, BurlingtonDances.com. Modern dance classes taught by Megan Davis are structured with a warm-up fused with Bartenieff Fundamentals and yoga. You'll explore movement with ease and specificity while challenging your technical strength. Expect a unique modern experience that will explore an unknown movement landscape and invite one's own inner creativity to surface.

BURLINGTON'S BEST SALSA: DAVID LARSON & SOUTH END STUDIO Summer dance class series will begin again Aug. 25 due to David's dance competition schedule. Location: South End Studio, 690 Pine St. near Lake Champlain Chocolates, just behind New World Tortilla, Burlington. Info: Sabrina, 540-0044, southendstudiovt.com. Join us this Thursday, Aug. 4 for our "Havana Nights" summer salsa dance party 7-9 p.m. at Splash, Burlington's Waterfront Boathouse. DJ Raul spins all the hot music. Cash bar. Free "Funky Cha Cha" lesson at 7 p.m. The best place to dance on the waterfront! FYI, get ready for Burlington's first salsa dance competition! All are welcome. Prizes, guest performers and the best of the best salsa dancers in Burlington.

DANCE STUDIO SALSALINA Location: 265 Pine St., Burlington. Info: Victoria 598-1077, info@salsaline.com. Salsa classes, nightclub-style on-one and on-two, group and private, four levels. Beginner walk-in classes: Wednesdays, 6 p.m. Argentinean Tango class and social: Fridays, 7:30 p.m., walk-ins welcome. No dance experience, partner or preregistration required; just the desire to have fun! Drop in any time and prepare for an enjoyable workout!

LEARN TO SWING DANCE! Cost: $60/6-week series ($50 for students/seniors). Location: Champlain Club, 20 Crowley St., Burlington. info: lindyvermont.com, 860-7501. Great fun, exercise and socializing, with fabulous music. Learn in a welcoming and lighthearted environment. Classes start every six weeks. Tuesdays for beginners, Wednesdays for upper levels. Instructors: Shirley McAdam and Chris Nick!

LEARN TO DANCE W/ A PARTNER! Cost: $50/4-week class. Location: The Champlain Club, 20 Crowley St., Burlington, St. Albans, Colchester. Info: First Step Dance, 598-6757, kevin@firststepdance.com, FirstStepDance.com. Come alone, or come with friends, but come out and learn to dance! Beginning classes repeat each month, but intermediate classes vary from month to month. As with all of our programs, everyone is encouraged to attend, and no partner is necessary. Three locations to choose from!

drawing

AUTOMATIC DRAWING Aug. 13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: $120/7 hr. class. Location: Helen Day Art Center, 5 School St., Stowe. Info: 253-8358, helenday.com. Automatic Drawing is a creative process free of conscious control and focuses on the importance of the unconscious as a source of inspiration. First practiced by Surrealist artists, automatic drawing allows the hand to move randomly across the paper. Students will have the choice of using basic and inexpensive materials including colored pencils, pastels and watercolors. Instructor: Alex Anglo.

flynnarts



652-4548
flynnarts@flynncenter.org

AUDITION WORKSHOP Ages 11-18. Mon., Aug. 6-12, 12-4 p.m. Cost: $265/course. Location: Flynn Center, Burlington. Getting ready to audition for your school show, a local production or college? Learn to put your best foot forward and knock the socks off an audition panel in this workshop with professional actors/directors Mark Nash and Kathryn Blume, as well as Broadway vocal coach Bill Reed.

herbs

WISDOM OF THE HERBS SCHOOL: Wild Edibles Intensive summer/fall term will be held Aug. 21-Sept. 18 and Oct. 16. Monthly Wild Edible and Medicinal Plant Walks with Annie: $10/ no one turned away. dates announced on our Facebook page or join our email list, or call us. Dates for our 2012 Wisdom of the Herbs and Wild Edibles Intensive are now posted on our website. VSAC needs-degree grants are available to qualifying applicants. Location: Wisdom of the Herbs School, Woodbury. Info: 456-8122, annie@wisdomoftheherbsschool.com, wisdomoftheherbsschool.com. Earth skills for changing times. Experiential programs embracing local, wild, edible and medicinal plants, food as first medicine, sustainable living skills and the inner journey. Annie McCleary, director and George List, naturalist.

kids

BERRY JAMBOREE Aug. 13, 10 a.m.-noon. Weekly on Tue. Location: Gardener's Supply Co., 472 Marshall Ave., Williston. Info: Gardener's Supply company. Events coordinator 660-3505, seminars@gardeners.com, gardenerssupplystore.com. Come out and join in our Berry Jamboree! Join us at our Williston Garden Center for a festive and music filled event, featuring musicians, blueberry pizza making and more! We'll plant the Kids Club berry patch, too!

language

SPANISH FOR ACTIVISM Aug. 6-12, 6-8:30 p.m. Cost: $900/grants & scholarships avail. Location: The Flashbulb Institute, 200 Main St., #14 Burlington. Info: The Flashbulb Institute, Sara Mehalick, 881-0418, sara@theflashbulb.org, theflashbulb.org. Learn Spanish language as it is used by communities fighting for social and ecological justice and gain a skill that can be used to do solidarity work abroad or with migrant populations in the global north. This class is specially designed for conversational level Spanish speakers.

martial arts

AIKIDO Adult classes meet 7 days/wk. Join now & receive a 3-mo. membership (unlimited classes) for $175. Location: Aikido of Champlain Valley, 257 Pine St. (across from Conant Metal and Light), Burlington. Info: 951-8900, burlingtonaikido.org. Aikido is a dynamic Japanese martial art that promotes physical and mental harmony through the use of breathing exercises, aerobic conditioning, circular movements, and pinning and throwing techniques. We also teach sword/staff arts and knife defense. The Samurai Youth Program provides scholarships for children and teenagers, ages 7-17.

AIKIDO Tue.-Fri. 6-7:30 p.m., Sun., 10-11:30 a.m. Location: Vermont Aikido, 274 N Winooski Ave. (2nd floor), Burlington. Info: Vermont Aikido, 862-9785, vermontaikido.org. Aikido trains body and spirit together, promoting physical flexibility with flowing movement, martial awareness with compassionate connection, respect for others and confidence in oneself.

NINJUTSU Tues. & Thurs. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Sun. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Cost: $80/mo. Location: Elements of Healing, Essex Shoppes, 21 Essex Way, suite 109, Essex Junction. Info: Vermont Ninjutsu, 825-5078, vtninjutsu@gmail.com. An ancient art with modern applications, Bujinkan Budo Taijutsu comprises nine samurai and ninja battlefield schools. Training includes physical conditioning, natural awareness, spiritual refinement, armed and unarmed combat.

NINJUTSU SELF-DEFENSE SEMINAR Aug. 20-21. Cost: $150/full weekend class. Location: Roots School, 20 Blachly Rd., E. Calais. Info: ROOTS School, Sarah Corrigan, 456-1263, info@rootsvt.com, RootsVt.com. Greg Kowalski, founder of New England Ninjutsu, will be teaching a weekend seminar that will apply Ninpo Taijutsu skills "In the Wild" situations that might occur while hiking or camping in the woods. Time permitting, special emphasis will be placed on improvised weaponry. All levels of experience are welcome.

MARTIAL ARTS >> P52

classes

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VERMONT BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU | Mon–Fri, 6–9 p.m., & Sat., 10 a.m. 1st class is free Location: Vermont Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, 55 Leroy Rd., Williston Info: 660-4072 Julio@bjjusa.com, vermontbjj.com Classes for men, women and children. Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu enhances strength, flexibility, balance, coordination and cardio-respiratory fitness. Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu training builds and helps to install courage and self confidence. We offer a legitimate Brazilian Jiu Jitsu martial arts program in a friendly, safe and positive environment. Accept no imitations. Learn from one of the world's best, Julio "Foca" Fernandez, CBJJ and IBJJF certified 6th Degree Black Belt, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu instructor under Carlson Gracie Sr., teaching in Vermont, born and raised in Rio de Janeiro Brazil. A 5-time Brazilian Jiu Jitsu National Featherweight Champion and 3-time Rio de Janeiro State Champion, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

VING TSUN KUNG FU | Mon. & Wed., 5:30-7:30 Cost: $90/mo Location: Robert Miller Center, 130 Gosse Ct., Burlington Info: MOY TUNG KUNG FU Nick, 318-3383, KUNGFU.VT@GMAIL.COM, MOYTUNGVT.COM Traditional Moy Yat Ving Tsun Kung Fu. Learn a highly effective combination of relaxation, center line control and economy of motion. Take physical stature out of the equation with the time-tested Ving Tsun system; simple principles work with any body type. Free introductory class.

massage

ASIAN BODYWORK THERAPY PROGRAM | Weekly on Mon., Tue. Cost: $5,000/500-hour program. Location: Elements of Healing, 21 Essex Way, suite 109, Essex Jct. Info: Elements of Healing, Scott Moylan, 288-8160, elementsofhealing@verizon.net, elementsofhealing.net. This program teaches two forms of massage, Amma and Shiatsu. We will explore Oriental medicine theory and diagnosis as well as the body's meridian system, acupressure points, Yin Yang and 5 Element Theory. Additionally, 100 hours of Western anatomy and physiology will be taught. VSAC non degree grents are available. NCBTMB-assigned school.

ISOMETRICS | 14 CEUs. Aug. 20-21, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Cost: $245/2 days; $225 when deposit of $50 is received by Aug. 7; ask about the Introductory Risk Free Fee. Location: Touchstone Healing Arts, Burlington. Info: Dianne Swafford, 734-1121, swaffordpersan@hotmail.com. In this class, isometric and isotonic techniques for working with inefficient muscular tension patterns as well as underdeveloped muscle tone are presented and practiced. Through the use of these techniques self-correcting reflexes are stimulated and habitual holding patterns can be released. Participants will learn how to use these techniques to promote change from rigid physical patterns to greater mobility.

MASSAGE PRACTITIONER TRAINING | Sep. 13-Jun. 3, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Location: Touchstone Healing Arts, 167 St. Paul St., Burlington. Info: Touchstone Healing Arts, 658-7715, touchvt@gmail.com, touchstonehealingarts.com. The science and art of massage therapy, practice and theory, ethics, professionalism, business practices, somatic psychology, group dynamics, and movement are all thoroughly explored and experienced in this nine-month, 690-hour immersion course now entering our 14th year. Give yourself the gift of healing and pass it on!

meditation

LEARN TO MEDITATE | Meditation instruction available Sunday mornings, 9 a.m.-noon, or by appointment. The Shambhala Café meets the first Saturday of each month for meditation and discussions, 9 a.m.-noon. An Open House occurs every third Wednesday evening of each month, 7-9 p.m., which includes an intro to the center, a short dharma talk and socializing. Location: Burlington Shambhala Center, 187 Sa. Wineoski Ave., Burlington. Info: 658-5795, burlington-shambhala.org. Through the practice of sitting still and following your breath as it goes out and dissolves, you are connecting with your heart. By simply letting yourself be as you are, you develop genuine sympathy toward yourself. The Burlington Shambhala Center offers meditation as a path to discovering gentleness and wisdom.

movement

BODY AWARENESS BARTENIEFF/LMA | 2 Weds. at the Flynn Center: Aug. 3 & 10, 7:30-9 p.m. Cost: $35/2 classes. Location: Flynn Center, 153 Main St., Burlington. Info: Burlington Dances, Lucille Dyer, 863-3389, Lucille@BurlingtonDances.com, BurlingtonDances.com. Laban Movement Analysis and Bartenieff Fundamentals practices are now embedded into the most advanced academic programs worldwide. This is a rare opportunity to deepen your awareness, develop the ability to observe and analyze movement, and expand your capacity for true creativity in a community setting. Register now at the Flynn Center for two Wednesday night classes introducing the foundations of Bartenieff/LMA with certified movement analyst Lucille Dyer. Call 652-4548 to register.

music

CONTEMPLATIVE HARP STUDIES | Harp retreats 1-5 days, lessons 1-3 hours/day w/ time for practice, rest & immediate feedback. Harp apprenticeships are arranged individually. Cost: $60/hr, affordable accomodations can be arranged. Location: Honeyhee Sound Sanctuary, 423 Goodwin Mtn. Lane, Westmore. Info: The Honeyhee Sound Sanctuary, Linde Schneck, 673-6362, eco-thanatology.com. A contemplative approach to musicianship that integrates mind, body and spirit. Individualized lessons, harp retreats, and harp apprenticeships are available. Harp apprenticeships culminate in a Certificate in Contemplative Harp Studies. Studies are based upon the Seven Harpistic Archetypes as developed by Linda M. Schneck, MA, CM-Th.

nonprofit

KINK, FETISH & BDSM CLASSES. VASE's monthly RACKshops always occur the 1st weekend of the ma. VASEcon is on Sat., Oct. 1. Cost: $35/early registration day pass, $5/Exploratorium only. Other monthly classes vary. $20-40. Location: Provided after event registration, South Burlington. Info: Vermont Alternative Sexuality Education, a sister-organization of the New England Leather Alliance. VT Kink, 881-4968, VTkink@gmail.com, VTkink.org. VASEcon is Vermont's first kink, fetish and BDSM conference offering 11 presenters, 15 classes and vendors for an all-day exploration of alternative sexuality in a safe, educational environment. VASE also offers monthly in-depth classes on a variety of topics. All genders and orientations over 18 years old are welcome.

painting

INTRO TO SUMI-E INK PAINTING: Aug. 15-19, 9 a.m.-noon. Cost: $250/course incl. materials (brush, paper, ink). Location: Vermont Zen Center, 480 Thomas Rd., Shelburne. Info: Vermont Zen Center, Emily Cress, 985-9746, vzc@att.net, vermontzen.org/sumi-e.html. This course is an introduction to the basic elements of sumi-e, Japanese ink painting, suitable for ages 12 and up, as well as for adult beginners. The course is designed for the beginning student in painting or drawing, however. It is suitable for intermediate levels as well. You will learn the basics of sumi-e, famous for its unique and graceful simplicity.

performing arts

POSTURE, POISE, PRESENCE | 2 special workshops w/ Joe Williams: Aug. 7, 10:30 a.m.-noon & 1:30-3:30 p.m. Cost: $25/workshop ($45 for both). Location: Burlington Dances, 1 Mill Street, suite 372, Burlington. Info: Burlington Dances, Lucille Dyer, 863-3389, Info@BurlingtonDances.com, BurlingtonDances.com. In nature, grace is not an affectation, but a signal of balance, power, speed and efficiency. The same is true in human nature. Joe Williams teaches the basics of body language as revealed by Delsarte and the exercises that establish the qualities of beauty, power and presence in anyone.

pilates

ALL WELLNESS | Location: 128 Lakeside Ave., suite 103, Burlington. Info: 863-9900, allwellnessvt.com. We encourage all ages, all bodies and all abilities to discover greater ease and enjoyment in life by integrating physical therapy, Pilates reformer, power Pilates mat classes, Vinyasa and Katonah yoga, and indoor cycling. Come experience our welcoming atmosphere, skillful instructors and beautiful, light-filled studio. Your first fitness class is free!

poetry

TASTE OF TANG | Aug. 20, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost: $45/course incl. vegetarian lunch. Location: Vermont Zen Center, 480 Thomas Rd., Shelburne. Info: Vermont Zen Center, Emily Cress, 985-9746, vzc@att.net, vermontzen.org/poetry.html. This workshop will begin with a short introduction to meditation. We will read a small taste of poems from Poems of the Late Tang (A.C. Graham), with discussion of the poetry. The afternoon will include a writing period of half to three-quarters of an hour, concluding with sharing of poems.

tai chi

SNAKE-STYLE TAI CHI CHUAN | Beginner classes: Sat. mornings & Wed. evenings. Call to view a class. Location: Bao Tak Fai Tai Chi Institute, 100 Church St., Burlington. Info: 864-7302, iptaichi.org. The Yang Snake Style is a dynamic tai chi method that mobilizes the spine while stretching and strengthening the core body muscles. Practicing this ancient martial art increases strength, flexibility, vitality, peace of mind and mental skill.

YANG-STYLE TAI CHI | Beginner's class: Wed., 5:30. All levels class on Sat., 8:30 a.m. Cost: $15/class. Location: Vermont Tai Chi Academy & Healing Center, 180 Flynn Ave., Burlington. Turn right into driveway immediately after the railroad tracks. Located in the old Magic Hat Brewery building. Info: 318-6238. Tai Chi is a slow-moving martial art that combines deep breathing and graceful movements to produce the valuable effects of relaxation. Improved concentration, improved balance, a decrease in blood pressure and ease in the symptoms of fibromyalgia. Janet Makans, instructor.

yoga

EVOLUTION YOGA | $14/class, $130/class card, $5-$10 community classes. Location: Evolution Yoga, Burlington. Info: 864-9642, yoga@evolutionvt.com, evolutionvt.com. Evolutions certified teachers are skilled with students ranging from beginner to advanced. We offer classes in Vinyasa, Anusara-inspired, Kripalu and Iyengar yoga. Babies/kids classes also available! Prepare for birth and strengthen postpartum with pre-/postnatal yoga, and check out our thriving massage practice. Participate in our community blog: evolutionvt.com/evoblog.

LAUGHING RIVER YOGA | $13/class, $110/10 classes, $130/monthly unlimited. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m. classes by donation. Location: Laughing River Yoga, Chace Mill, suite 128, Burlington. Info: 343-8119, emily@laughingriveryoga.com, laughingriveryoga.com. Experienced and compassionate teachers offer a variety of yoga styles for all levels, including Kripalu, Jivamukti, Flow Yin and Kundalini. Educate yourself with monthly workshops and class series. Get away with affordable yoga retreats. Nine month yoga teacher training begins January! Deepen your understanding of who you are.

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Little **Big** Men

With Mini Kiss, good things do come in small packages

BY DAN BOLLES



In the annals of rock and roll, few bands have parlayed a gimmick into genuine stardom quite like Kiss. The legendary quartet with the Halloween makeup have flamboyantly rocked and partied for nearly 40 years, developing a rabid cult following along the way. And, not surprisingly, the band has inspired a number of tribute acts over the decades. But to truly pay homage to one of rock's great gimmicks, one needs an equally compelling angle to stand out among the face-painted crowd.

Enter Mini Kiss, a New York City-based Kiss tribute act composed entirely of little people.

Seven Days recently caught up with Mini Kiss founder Joeseph Fatale (aka Mini-Gene Simmons) by phone, in advance of the band's upcoming booze cruise concert aboard the ferry in Burlington this Saturday, August 6.

SEVEN DAYS: Tell me about the origin of the idea for Mini Kiss.

JOESEPH FATALE: I've actually been doing this kind of stuff for years, on "Saturday Night Live," Conan O'Brien. But about 15 years ago, I was going through my records and came across my Kiss albums. I thought, *Oh, my God. This would be so much fun to do. Little people dressed as Kiss.*

SD: And the name came right away?

JF: It just came sputtering out. Mini Kiss. I even got it patented before we started. And why not? Gene Simmons patented everything he did, you know?

SD: And how did he feel about your band?

JF: We did a Dr. Pepper commercial with [Kiss], and we hung out and had a great time. They loved us. I actually think we helped bring them back to life a little bit.

SD: You guys don't stick strictly to Kiss songs, though.

JF: Nope. I've learned through trial and error that you need to mix things up to keep your audience. So, with us, you get a bit of an '80s tribute, too. A little Guns N' Roses. A little Mötley Crüe. A little [Black] Sabbath.

SD: That's a little bit of awesome.

JF: It is. But to me, the best part is that we get a lot of kids that come see us. We grew up to Kiss. They're growing up to Mini Kiss.

SD: It's a niche within a niche.

JF: Sure. And that's part of the reason you can't do an hour-and-a-half set of just Kiss songs. Most people don't really know a lot of their songs. They didn't have a lot of big hits. This guy over here might really want to hear "God of Thunder," but 90 percent of the crowd doesn't know that song. You have to please your crowd, keep the people laughing. When we do GNR, I put the Slash hat on, with the sunglasses and a cigarette. I look like mini-Slash.

SD: Do you write your own music, too?

JF: I'm coming out with an album, actually. All originals. I've been a musician most of my life. I've been writing since I was a kid, and I have a huge little studio down in my basement.

> THE BEST PART IS THAT WE GET A LOT OF KIDS THAT COME SEE US. WE GREW UP TO KISS. THEY'RE GROWING UP TO MINI KISS.
>
> JOSEPH FATALE, MINI KISS

SD: What kind of stuff do you write?

JF: It's like Limp Bizkit meets 50 Cent, or Snoop Dogg.

SD: Holy shit.

JF: Yup. It's good stuff. Heavy.

SD: Describe the typical reaction of someone who is seeing Mini Kiss for the first time.

JF: Especially kids, when they first see a little person, they look at us like, *Oh, my God. What's that?* But you know, we're little. We're different. And kids are always gonna look at you, no matter what. But when we put that makeup on — and of course then they *really* look at us like, *Oh, my God. What's that?* But then they get into it. They get wild. It's sweet.

SD: Is it hard to find musicians for the band?

JF: I've been through 22 different members. Most of them were the singers.

SD: Why is that?

JF: They mess with the drugs, alcohol. And after a while, they get big heads.

SD: Um ... yikes.

JF: I've fired a lot of people. One day I'm gonna put a book out.

SD: Do you ever have problems with hecklers?

JF: It's rock and roll. You're always going to have assholes here and there. Drunken idiots. One day, many years ago, the singer I had then was only about three-foot-four, little guy. This drunk guy came onstage and picked him up, swung him around a little bit.

SD: Whoa. So what did you do?

JF: I hit him right in the back with my guitar. ☺

Mini Kiss play aboard the ferry boarding from the King Street Ferry Dock in Burlington this Saturday, August 6, at 8 p.m. $35. Tickets at lakechamplaincruises.com.

SOUNDbites

BY DAN OLLES

Plattsburgh Follies

Readers, you know how much I love to push your buttons once in a while. OK, pretty much on a weekly basis. But I digress.

Last week, the fair city of Plattsburgh had its collective feathers ruffled by a feature story penned by yours truly, titled "Things to Do in Plattsburgh When You're Drunk." If you missed it, 7D dispatched me to the Lake City to get a feel for the town's nightlife as part of our Adirondacks issue (read it online!). I responded by barhopping with some fellow Burlingtonians on a Saturday evening and presented my thoughts, such as they were, in diary form. It was a fun night and, I thought, a fun story.

It seems Plattsburghites disagree.

Not since my first few months on the job have we been flooded with so many angry letters, emails, phone calls, tweets, carrier pigeons and bricks through our office window regarding something I've written. (Kidding about the birds and bricks ... so far.) Responses have ranged from sheer outrage and indignation to deep disappointment and bewilderment. A variety of issues have been raised, but the prevailing sentiment can be distilled to two choice words. I'll let you guess which two. Ahem.

While I can't address any specific letters or phone calls, I'd like to take a moment to answer some of the comments from the west side of the lake. Here goes:

You're an asshole.

— Hey! That's mean.

Kind of true. But mean.

Plattsburgh is not in the Adirondacks.

— We know. Thanks.

Why didn't you go to Rumors?

— Honestly? I was kind of scared.

You get paid for this?

— I *know*, right?

You should have gone to more bars.

— Maybe. But we went to five in one night. How many drinks does it take to make a city look good?

Have you looked into alcohol counseling?

— No. I don't have drinking problem. Except when I can't get a drink. (Rimshot!)

Isn't this a music column?

— Thanks for reminding me. Let's get back to it asap.

In all seriousness, Plattsburgh, I never meant to offend your apparently delicate sensibilities. That story, while recounted as accurately as my notes would allow, was meant to be tongue-in-cheek, more humor piece than Fodor's travel guide — which I thought was pretty obvious from the headline. But still.

Honestly, I had a fun night bouncing around your town, and it was not my intention to hurt your feelings or disparage an entire city based on one rowdy night. I might even come back sometime, if you'll have me. First round is on me. Because, hey, at least you're not Rutland. (Note to Rutland: kidding!)

That's So Reggae

As we turn the calendar to August and the dog days of summer, even generally reggae-averse music fans often experience a thirst for breezy island vibes. Fortunately, the fine folks at Nectar's and Club Metronome have us covered for the next month and a half with an epic series of reggae shows they've dubbed — dub, get it? — the 2011 Summer Reggae Series. I think we may want to work on that name.



COURTESY PHOTO/Jeremy Cowart

Yellowman

In the meantime, the series kicks off this Sunday at Metronome with a very special incarnation of **DJ BIG DOG**'s weekly Mi Yard Reggae Night featuring **MYKAL ROSE**, of Grammy-winning **BLACK UHURU** renown. (See the spotlight on page 60.) But that's really just the tip of the dreadlock.

The series continues on Saturday, August 13, with **FEAR NUTTIN BAND** and **DOCTOR DOOM ORCHESTRA** at Nectar's. The following week, on Thursday, August 18, the pressure drops at Metronome with toasting legend — and albino — **YELLOWMAN**, with the **SAGITTARIUS BAND**.

After a week or two for reggae fans to catch their collective breath/find more weed/enroll in classes at UVM, the series resumes on Saturday, September 10 with **DUB IS A WEAPON** and **SOPHISTAFUNK** at Nectar's, before wrapping up on Friday, September 16, with **MIGHTY MYSTIC** and local reggae all-stars **PULSE PROPHETS**, also at Nectar's.

On an unrelated note, is anyone else depressed that we're starting to talk about shows happening in September? Sigh.

BiteTorrent

The big haps this week is likely the start of the fourth annual **RHINOFEST**. (See the spotlight on page 56.) But if you're not planning to make the trip to Plainfield this weekend, or perhaps you just want to get started early, Club Metronome hosts a RhinoFest pre-party this Thursday, August 4, with **2K BEEP, WHO DO YOU KNOW?** and the **HUMAN CANVAS**.

In other news, my man-crush on Angioplasty Media was taken to a new level when **NICK MAVODONES** announced late last week that Daytrotter's Barnstormer series would be making a Vermont stop. The traveling indie-rock caravan featuring **WHITE RABBITS, DEER TICK, WE ARE AUGUSTINES, BLOOD ORANGES** and **DOUG PAISLEY** pulls in to the Old Lantern in Charlotte on Sunday, August 28. Tickets are on sale now.

When **BOUGH FRANCIS** play Charlie O's in Montpelier this Saturday, August 6, there is a distinct possibility the combined awesomeness of one of Burlington's best punk bands and the greatest bar in world — granted, I say that having not been to Rumors

SOUNDBITES » P.57

Follow **@DanOlles** on Twitter for more music news and **@7DaysClubs** for daily show recommendations. Dan blogs on Solid State at **sevendaysvt.com/blogs**

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104.7 THE POINT WELCOMES
LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME FESTIVAL
O.A.R.
SOJA
THU, 8/11 | $30 ADV / $35 DOS | DOORS 7, SHOW 8PM
104.7 THE POINT WELCOMES
LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME FESTIVAL
NAS & DAMIAN "JR GONG" MARLEY
DJ A-DOG
FRI, 8/12 | $30 SINGLE DAY / $60 3-DAY | DOORS 6, SHOW 8:30PM
104.7 THE POINT & VPR WELCOME GRAND POINT NORTH
LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME FESTIVAL
GRACE POTTER & THE NOCTURNALS
FITZ & THE TANTRUMS, JESSICA LEA MAYFIELD, MUDDLERUCKET + MANY MORE
SUN, 8/14 | $30 SINGLE DAY / $60 3-DAY | DOORS 2, SHOW 3:30PM
104.7 THE POINT & VPR WELCOME GRAND POINT NORTH
LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME FESTIVAL
GRACE POTTER & THE NOCTURNALS
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music

CLUB DATES

NA: NOT AVAILABLE. AA: ALL AGES. NC: NO COVER.



FRI 05, SAT 06, SUN 07 // RHINOFEST (ROCK, REGGAE, HOUSE)

Back to Your Roots Festival season is in full swing, with one (or two, or three) outdoor music fests happening every weekend from now until the fall. This week, the cream of the crop is the fourth annual RhinoFest in Plainfield. Centered on a natural amphitheater, the three-day throwdown features a wealth of rock, reggae roots and electronica, including headliners **EOTO**, **JAHDAN BLAKKAMORE** (pictured) **FAREED HAQUE AND MATH GANDS**, **ARIL THE MC** and **MICHAL MINART**. The undercard boasts acts of local and regional renown, and there's even an electronic music dome for after-dark ass shakin. RhinoFest begins Friday, August 5, and runs through Sunday, August 7. Ticket and schedule info is available at rhinofestvt.com.

WED.03

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE Rewind with DJ Craig Mitchell. 10 p.m.

BREAKWATER CAFÉ Sideshow Bob (rock). 6 p.m. Free.

FRANNY O'S Karaoke. 9:30 p.m., Free.

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM Dweezil Zappa Plays Zappa (rock). 8 p.m. $30/33. AA.

HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE Northern Exposure: Homeland Security, Jessica Prouty Band (rock). 8:30 p.m. $5. AA.

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ Live Music (jazz). 7 p.m. Free.

LIFT DJs P-Wyld & Jezzy Janet (hip-hop). 9 p.m. Free/$5. 18+

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB Open Mic with Andy Lugo. 10 p.m. Free.

MONKEY HOUSE Dirty Bird. 5 p.m., Free. Bear Vision with DJ Disco Phantom (eclectic DJ). 9 p.m. $1.

NECTAR'S Fishtank Ensemble (gypsy folk). 9 p.m. $6/16. 18+

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Paydirt (acoustic rock). 7 p.m. Free.

RADIO BEAN Ensemble V (jazz). 7:30 p.m., Free. Irish Sessions. 9 p.m., Free.

RED SQUARE Project Organ Trio (funk). 7 p.m. Free. DJ Cre8 (hip-hop). 11 p.m. Free.

central

BAGITOS Acoustic Blues Jam. 6 p.m., Free.

CHARLIE O'S Eric Tessmer Band (rock). 8 p.m. Free.

PURPLE MOON PUB Cash Is King (alt. country). 7 p.m. Free.

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS Karaoke with Let It Rock Entertainment. 9 p.m. Free.

northern

BEE'S KNEES Live Music. 7:30 p.m. Donations.

MOOG'S The Ramblers (bluegrass). 8:30 p.m., Free. Flat Top Trio (bluegrass). 8:30 p.m. Free.

THE SHED RESTAURANT & BREWERY Abby Jenne & the Enablers (rock). 8 p.m. Free.

regional

MONOPOLE Open Mic. 8 p.m. Free.

THU.04

burlington area

BREAKWATER CAFÉ Funkwagon (funk). 6 p.m. Free.

CLUB METRONOME 2K Deep presents Rhinofest Pre-Party with the Human canvas, Who Do You Know?, Jime Time, Helix (house, dubstep). 9 p.m. Free (18+).

FRANNY O'S Karaoke. 9 p.m. Free.

HALVORSON'S UPSTREET CAFÉ Friends of Joe (jazz). 7 p.m. Free.

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM John Butler Trio, Mama Kin (groove). 7 p.m., $30/32. AA.

HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE The Band of Heathens (rock). 8 p.m., $10/13. AA.

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ Ellen Powell & Friends (jazz). 7 p.m. Free.

LIFT Get LIFTed with DJs Nastee & Dakota (hip-hop). 9 p.m. Free.

NECTAR'S Trivia Mania with Top Hat Entertainment. 7 p.m. Free. Bluegrass Thursdays with Mason Porter (bluegrass). 9 p.m. Free/$5. 18+

O'BRIEN'S IRISH PUB DJ Dominic (hip-hop). 9:30 p.m. Free.

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Nabby Reed Project (blues). 7 p.m. Free.

PARIMA MAIN STAGE Burgundy Thursdays with Joe Adler, The Deerwarth Sisters, Corey N Gottfried, Dusty Jewels, Don & Jen (singer-songwriters). 8:30 p.m., $3.

RADIO BEAN Jazz Sessions. 6 p.m., Free. Shane Hardiman Trio (jazz). 8 p.m. Free. The Unbearable Light Cabaret (eclectic). 10 p.m., $3. Kat Wright & the Indomitable Soul Band (soul). 11 p.m. $3.

RASPUTIN'S 101 Thursdays with Pres & DJ Dan (hip-hop). 10 p.m. Free/$5. 18+

RED SQUARE DJ Dakota (hip-hop). 8 p.m. Free. A Dog Presents (hip-hop). 10 p.m. Free.

REI'S SQUARE BLUE ROOM DJ Cre8 (house). 9 p.m., Free.

RI RÁ IRISH PUB Longford Row (Irish). 8 p.m. Free.

THE SKINNY PANCAKE Nicole Carey & Handmade Blues, Charles Kelsey (singer-songwriters). 8 p.m. $5 donation.

VENUE Karaoke with Steve LaClair. 7 p.m. Free.

central

THE BLACK DOOR Evan Crandell and Friends (funk). 8:30 p.m. $5.

GREEN MOUNTAIN TAVERN Thirsty Thursday Karaoke. 9 p.m. Free.

NUTTY STEPH'S Bacon Thursdays with Noble Savage (electro). 10 p.m. Free.

PURPLE MOON PUB Open Mic. 7 p.m. Free.

SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN Open Mic. 7 p.m. Free. DJ Dakota (hip-hop). 10 p.m. Free.

champlain valley

51 MAIN Gaba Stella (electro-acoustic). 8 p.m. Free.

ON THE RISE BAKERY ITR @ OTB with Derrick Jerkins, Rebecca Padula, Celia Evans (singer-songwriters). 8 p.m. Donations.

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Salsa Night with DJ Hector Cobeo. 10 p.m., Free.

northern

BEE'S KNEES Kelly Ravin & Lisa Marie Fisher (singer-songwriters). 7:30 p.m. Donations.

MOOG'S Shane Brody (acoustic). 8:30 p.m. Free.

RIMROCKS MOUNTAIN TAVERN DJ Two Rivers (hip-hop). 10 p.m. Free.

regional

MONOPOLE DOWNSTAIRS Gary Peacock (singer-songwriter). 10 p.m., Free.

OLIVE RIDLEY'S Karaoke with Benjamin Bright and Ashley Kollar. 6 p.m., Free. Therapy Thursdays with DJ NYCE (Top 40). 10:30 p.m. Free.

TABU CAFÉ & NIGHTCLUB Karaoke Night with Sassy Entertainment. 5 p.m., Free.

FRI 05 » P.58

SOUNDbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 55



Squid City

in Plattsburgh — may just cause a tear in the fabric of time and space. Throw in the fact that up-and-coming Mont-p outfit **THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID** are also on the bill, and the Golden Dome itself may simply shatter under the weight of epic rocking.

This just in from Parima: It is still closing in September. Would you excuse me for just one second?

(MY EMPIRE IS CRUMBLING!)

Sorry 'bout that — any *Kids in the Hall: Brain Candy* fans out there? Anyway, no change on the Parima front, I'm afraid. However, **JOE ADLER** and Co. are still bulking up the music schedule through mid-September. This weekend, the joint has a number of noteworthy acts lined up, including songwriters **KELLY & AVIN** and **LISA MARIE FISCHER**, followed by rebel folk-hop hybrid **2NO AGENDA** on Friday, August 5, and the **MODERN GRASS QUINTET** followed by heady prog rockers **SQUID CITY** and funky jazz-rock outfit **PROJECT ORGAN TRIO** on Saturday, August 6.

Jericho-based songwriter **DEREK BURKINS** unveils a new monthly series this week at On the Rise Bakery in Richmond. "Songwriters in the Round" is, um, exactly what it sounds like: Songwriters in the round. The series will run the first Thursday of each month, and gets under way this Thursday, August 4, with **REBECCA PADULA** and **CELIA EVANS**.

Band Name of the Week: **VERMONT PIANO MOVING COMPANY**. Like the **VERMONT JOY PARADE**? Then you're gonna love their more muscular cousins, the Vermont Piano Moving Company. Actually, VPMC is technically an offshoot of the VJP, featuring lead songwriters **ANNA PANDENIK** and **GALEN PERIA** and other assorted friends and cohorts. They'll be at Red Square this Saturday, August 6, as part of the Festival of Fools.

Last but not least, I had a great time at the Concerts on the Green at Shelburne Museum this past Friday. **CONOR OBERST** was, well, much less of a whiny whelp than I had expected as **BRIGHT EYES** delivered a pretty rollicking set of older tunes and new material — none of which made me want to slit my wrists! So there's that. And the **MOUNTAIN GOATS** were just silly good. After last year's **FURTHUR** debacle, you couldn't help but wonder whether the COTG series would live to rock another day. There really is something special about shows on that lawn. I'm glad Higher Ground and the museum were able to bury the hatchet for the greater indie-rock good, at least for a night. And word has it more shows are to come next summer. ⑦



Deer Tick



Listening In

Once again, this week's totally self-indulgent column segment, in which I share a random sampling of what was on my iPod, turntable, CD player, 8-track player, etc., this week.

Prussia,
Tour for Attention

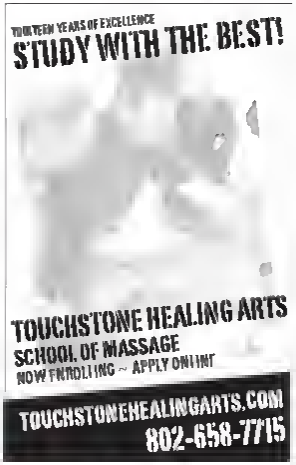
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As Bright as Your Night Light

Raphael Saadiq,
Stone Rollin

Gang Gang Dance
Eye Contact

Cass McCombs,
Wit's End









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green drinks

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CLUB DATES

NA: NOT AVAILABLE AA: ALL AGES, NC: NO COVER.



FRI.05 // 2ND AGENDA (REBEL FOLK ROCK)

Hope Floats Playing locally in various incarnations for the better part of the last decade, 2ND AGENDA have become something of a Burlington institution. With the release of their latest EP, *Hope Is a Must*, the band has refined its high-minded hybrid of folk, rock and hip-hop. The result is danceable music with a message. Or, perhaps more accurately, a message with a fierce soundtrack. In either case, the band plays the Parima Main Stage this Friday, August 5.

THU.04 « P.56

FRI.05

burlington area

BACKSTAGE PUB Karaoke with Steve, 9 p.m. Free

BREAKWATER CAFÉ Hot Neon Magic (80s New Wave) 6 p.m. Free.

CLUB METRONOME No Diggity Return to the 90s (90s dance party), 9 p.m. $5

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM Summer Heat 3 with DJ Billy Hoerr, DJ Cody Rice (house), 8:30 p.m., $15/18, AA.

HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE First Friday with Linda Cullum, DJs Precious & Lilu (singer songwriter house), 8 p.m. $5/10, 18+

JP'S PUB Dave Harrison's Starstruck Karaoke, 10 p.m. Free.

LIFT Salsa Friday with DJ Hector Cobeo (salsa), 9 p.m. Free.

MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE Queen City Quartet (acoustic), 8:30 p.m. Free

MIGUEL'S ON MAIN Sarah Stickle (singer songwriter), 8 p.m. Free

MONKEY HOUSE Since Our First Guitar, Normandie Wilson, Giggles Flys Again (rock), 9 p.m. $5, 18+

NECTAR'S Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues), 7 p.m. Free, Project Organ Trio (funk), 9 p.m. $5.

ON TAP BAR & GRILL The Growlers (rock), 5 p.m. Free, Phil Abair Band (rock), 9 p.m. Free.

PARIMA MAIN STAGE Kelly Ravin, Lisa Marie Fisher (singer songwriters), 7 p.m. $3, 2nd Agenda (rebel folk hip-hop), 10 p.m., $3

RADIO BEAN There Is No Sin (rock), 7 p.m. Free, Matt Townsend (singer songwriter), 8 p.m. Free, Yossou Benedict (singer-songwriter), 11 p.m., Free, Knights (rock), 11:59 p.m., Free.

RASPUTIN'S DJ ZJ (hip-hop), 10 p.m. $3

RED SQUARE DJ Chad Mira (hip-hop), 2 p.m. Free, Hughes and Belles (swampy tonk), 8 p.m. Free, Waylon Speed (speedwestern), 9 p.m., Donations

RED SQUARE BLUE ROOM DJ Stavros (house), 10 p.m. $5

RUBEN JAMES DJ Creo (hip-hop), 10:30 p.m. Free.

SÓ BÁ IRISH PUB Supersounds DJ (Top 40), 10 p.m. Free.

THE SKINNY PANCAKE Shannon Hawley, Ari Jacobson (singer songwriters), 8 p.m. $5 donation.

VAN PHAN SPORTS DJ Black Cherry (Top 40), 8 p.m. Free

VERMONT PUB & BREWERY Love Sax (funk), 10 p.m. Free

central

THE BLACK DOOR Myra Flynn Band CD release (neo-soul), 9:30 p.m. $5.

CHARLIE O'S Live Music (rock), 10 p.m. Free

GREEN MOUNTAIN TAVERN DJ Jenny P (Top 40), 9 p.m. $2

PURPLE MOON PUB Dan Liptak Trio (jazz), 8 p.m., Free.

THE RESERVOIR RESTAURANT & TAP ROOM DJ Slim Pkinz All Request Dance Party (Top 40), 10 p.m. Free.

TUPELO MUSIC HALL Al Stewart (folk), 8 p.m. $30, AA

champlain valley

51 MAIN Mogani (rock), 9 p.m., Free.

CITY LIMITS Top Hat Entertainment Dance Party (Top 40), 9 p.m., Free.

ON THE RISE BAKERY Gua Gua (psychotropical), 8 p.m. Donations.

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Starline Rhythm Boys (rockabilly), 9 p.m., $3.

northern

BEE'S KNEES Spider Roulette (acoustic), 7:30 p.m. Donations.

MOOG'S Canyonero (Americana), 9 p.m. Free.

RIMROCKS MOUNTAIN TAVERN Friday Night Frequencies with DJ Rekkon (hip hop), 10 p.m. Free

ROADSIDE TAVERN The Blame (rock), 9 p.m. Free.

RUSTY NAIL Lost Kid Picked (rock), 10 p.m., NA

regional

MONOPOLE Charlie Orlando (rock), 10 p.m. Free.

NAKED TURTLE Glass Onion (rock), 10 p.m. Free

OLIVE OIDLEY'S Benjamin Bright (singer-songwriter), 5 p.m. Free

SAT.06

burlington area

BACKSTAGE PUB Sturcrazie (rock), 9 p.m. Free.

BREAKWATER CAFÉ Jam Antics (rock), 6 p.m. Free.

CLUB METRONOME Retronome (80s dance party), 10 p.m. $5

FRANNY O'S Karaoke, 9 p.m., Free.

JP'S PUB Dave Harrison's Starstruck Karaoke, 10 p.m. Free

MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE Anthony Santor (jazz), 8:30 p.m. Free

NECTAR'S Zack duPont (singer songwriter), 7 p.m. Free, Pulse Prophet, Soul Rebel Project (reggae), 9 p.m. $5

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Last Word (rock), 9 p.m. Free.

PARIMA MAIN STAGE Modern Grass Quintet (bluegrass), 7 p.m., $3, Squid City Project Organ Trio (prog rock, funk), 9:30 p.m. $8

RADIO BEAN Less Digital More Manual, Record Club, 3 p.m. Free, Matt Sarreca (singer-songwriter), 7 p.m., Free, Cross Record (rock), 8 p.m., Free, The Lucky Jukebox Brigade (rock), 9 p.m. Free, Dino Bravo Jamheart (rock), 11:30 p.m. Free.

RASPUTIN'S Nastee (hip-hop), 10 p.m. Free

RED SQUARE DJ Raul (salsa), 5 p.m., Free, Vermont Piano Moving Country (suspender fusion), 5 p.m. Free, Japhy Ryder (prog rock), 9 p.m., $5, DJ A Dog (hip-hop), 11:30 p.m., $5

SÓ BÁ IRISH PUB The Complaints (rock), 10 p.m. Free.

THE SKINNY PANCAKE Victoria Fox, Jesse French and Jon Mills (singer songwriters), 8 p.m. $5 donation.

VAN PHAN SPORTS DJ Black Cherry (Top 40), 8 p.m. Free

VENUE Tim Brick (country), 9:30 p.m., $3

VERMONT PUB & BREWERY Lyngualistic Civilians (hip-hop), 10 p.m. Free

central

CHARLIE O'S Rough Francis That's What She Said (rock), 10 p.m., Free

PURPLE MOON PUB Va-Et-Vient (folk), 8 p.m. Free

THE RESERVOIR RESTAURANT & TAP ROOM Torpedo Rodeo (rock), 10 p.m. Free

TUPELO MUSIC HALL California Transit Authority (Chicago tribute), 8 p.m. $35/40, AA.

SAT.06 » P.60

REVIEW *this*



Myra Flynn, *For the Record*

(SELF RELEASED CD/DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)

Contrary to popular belief, being a musician is hard goddamn work. While fables of obscure singers rising to stardom make for good rock-journo copy, the reality is that such Cinderella stories are just that: fairy tales. To make it in music requires thick skin, a stiff upper lip and an almost inhuman level of dedication to one's craft. Writing, recording, touring and promoting yourself is grueling and often thankless. Only a special type of person can deal with the inevitable frustrations, failures and indignities that almost seem mandatory along the road to success.

Burlington's Myra Flynn understands this well. The neo-soul songstress has displayed tireless dedication throughout her songwriting career as she has inched, little by little, toward the top. It's been a bumpy road at times. Flynn's 2009 debut album, *Crooked Measures*, though promising, was an accurate reflection of a struggling songwriter still getting her bearings. Since then, Flynn has pressed on, relentlessly gigging, writing and networking. Now, with the release of her stirring sophomore follow-up, *For the Record*, she is ready to reap the fruit of her relentless labor.

Where *Crooked Measures* introduced Flynn as a talented but somewhat unsecure singer, *For the Record* reveals a mature and self-assured diva. From the album's hushed opening strains on the cunningly titled "Expectations," Flynn serves notice that she has *arrived*. Gone are girlish flights of thin, falsetto fancy. Instead, she delivers sensuous, full-bodied heart and soul that demands attention.

Flynn's writing and arrangements have similarly developed, from sturdy but derivative musings to full-fledged ingenuity. Much like her mentor, local pop prince Gregory Douglass, Flynn seems unafraid to challenge not only her own boundaries but those of the pop archetypes within which she exists.

"Emergency" is a shifty, scintillating rocker, while "Memo" sounds something like Beyoncé fronting TV on the Radio. "Say So" is a playfully cheeky pop charmer that explodes at the finish. And "Pretty Face" revisits the tender R&B-tinged neo-soul for which Flynn is best known. Throughout the record, she crafts lush, orchestral pop suites as engaging as they are inventive.

From start to finish, there's hardly a weak link among the record's 11 tracks. Even fleeting lesser moments, such as the meandering, borderline-precious "Broken Down Baby," are rescued by Flynn's confident, forceful approach. And more often than not, she executes them with a grace, style and class that can only come from experience. Congratulations, Myra Flynn. Your work has paid off in spades.

Flynn celebrates the release of *For the Record* this Friday, August 5, at the Black Door in Montpelier, and at the Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center in Stowe on Saturday, August 6, with Gregory Douglass.

DAN BOLLES



Francesca Blanchard, *Songs on an Ovation*

(SELF RELEASED CD)

When I grow up, I want to be Francesca Blanchard. Barely out of high school, the local singer-songwriter already displays guile and artistic sensitivity that would be the envy of many tunesmiths twice her age — and, for that matter, music critics of a similarly mature vintage. Her debut EP, *Songs on an Ovation*, is quietly and profoundly stunning. It is a humble ode to love, heartbreak and home that says more about all three topics in the span of 17 minutes than some songwriters do over entire careers.

The EP begins with "Mon Ange." Blanchard is French-born, and wrote the song in her native tongue. Whether or not you understand the language, her understated delivery evokes deeply stirring emotion — particularly at the song's undulating chorus, where guest vocalist Gregory Douglass accents her breezy melody with a swooning harmony of his own. Angelic, indeed.

The melancholy "Save a Different Way" is next. Blanchard is currently a theater major at Boston University, and it would seem her gifts on the stage translate well to music. The depth of her lovelorn sadness suggests a weariness that runs contrary to her tender years. She may be young, but she has an old soul, which she fearlessly bares here.

Cellist Monique Citro — a frequent collaborator with Douglass — makes a number of cameos on the EP, the first of which is on "Sleep." Citro's lugubrious, textured sustains frame Blanchard's bittersweet lullaby with aching tenderness.

"Back Home" is the last of Blanchard's original material and is an homage to her hometown of Charlotte, Vt. In less capable hands, her musings on old farm dogs and summer days would tread perilously close to earnest, Rockwellian schmaltz. But the purity in her measured, restrained delivery makes her every word believable.

The EP closes on a pair of covers: "Quelqu'un M'a Dit" by French singer/model/actress/first lady Carla Bruni, and a version of the Chilton Price/Pee Wee King/Redd Stewart classic "You Belong to Me," popularized by Dean Martin, among others. Sparse and airy, the latter is gorgeous. Blanchard commands the tune's sweetly smitten lyrics as if they were written for no other voice but hers — sorry, Dino. It is a fitting and touching close to a remarkable debut.

DAN BOLLES

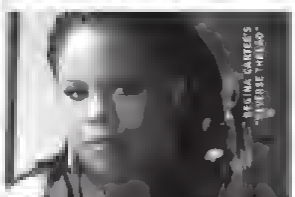
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SAT 06 « P 55

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS. Dance Party with DJ Earl (Top 40!) 9 p.m. Free
TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Smoke Stack Lightning (rock) 10 p.m., $3.

northern

BEE'S KNEES The Heckhounds (country blues) 7:30 p.m. Donations.
MOOG'S Freddy & the Weeds (rock), 9 p.m. Free
RIMROCKS MOUNTAIN TAVEAN DJ Two Rivers (hip-hop) 10 p.m. Free
ROADSIDE TAVERN Live DJ (Top 40), 9 p.m. Free Live DJ (Top 40) 9:30 p.m. Free.
RUSTY NAIL. Charley Orlando (rock) 10 p.m. NA.

regional

MONOPOLE Is (rock) 10 p.m. Free
NAKED TURTLE Glass Onion (rock), 10 p.m. Free
TARU CAFÉ & NIGHTCLUB All Night Dance Party with DJ Toxic (Top 40), 5 p.m. Free.

SUN.07

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE Funhouse with DJs Rob Douglas, Muenflower & Friends (house) 10 p.m. Free.
BREAKWATER CAFÉ King Me (acoustic) 2 p.m. Free.
CLUB METRONOME. Mi Yard Presents Mykal Rose (reggae) 8 p.m. $15/20.
NECTAR'S Mi Yard Reggae Night with Big Dog & Demus 9 p.m. Free.
PARIMA ACOUSTIC LOUNGE Queen City Bossa (bossa nova) 7 p.m. $3.
RADIO BEAN Old Time Sessions (old-time) 1 p.m., Free Trio Gusto (gypsy jazz) 5 p.m., Free. Tango Sessions 7 p.m. Free. Kevin Greenblott (singer songwriter) 9 p.m. Free Jimmy Ruin (singer-songwriter) 10 p.m. Free
RED SQUARE. Soul Patrol (r&b) 8 p.m. Free. Soul Patrol (r&b) 8 p.m. Free DJ ZJ (hip-hop) 11 p.m. Free.

central

BIG PICTURE THEATER & CAFÉ Jazz Brunch with Anthony Santor and Friends 11 a.m. $5 donation

northern

BEE'S KNEES Cody Michaels (piano), 11 a.m. Donations. The Butterbeans (old time) 7:30 p.m. Donations.
SWEET CRUNCH BAKE SHOP Mattie Hallet, Hannah Gates, Amelia Machia (folk) 10:30 p.m. Free
YE OLDE ENGLAND INNE Corey Beard, Dan Liptak and Dan Haley (jazz) 11:30 a.m., Free.

MON.08

burlington area

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM Little Feat (rock) 7:30 p.m. $30/32 AA.
MONKEY HOUSE. Black Lodge presents Braveyoung, Rosetta (rock) 9 p.m., $5. 18+
NECTAR'S Metal Mondays with Nefarious Frenzy, Caulfield, Teeth, Rumors of Betrayal (metal) 9 p.m. Free/$5 18+
ON TAP BAR & GRILL. Open Mic with Wylie, 7 p.m., Free.
RADIO BEAN Open Mic, 8 p.m., Free.
RED SQUARE. ZDP Band presents Massive Mondates (rock) 8 p.m., Free Birchwood Coupe (rock) 8 p.m. Free Hype Em (hip hop) 11 p.m. Free
ROZZIE'S LAKESHORE TAVERN Trivia Night 8 p.m. Free
RUBEN JAMES Why Not Monday? with Dakota (hip-hop) 10 p.m., Free.

central

BAGITOS Open Mic, 7 p.m., Free.

northern

MOOG'S Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues) 8 p.m. Free.

TUE.09

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE Turntable Tuesday with DJ Kanga (turntablism) 10 p.m. Free.
CLUB METRONOME. Bass Culture with DJs Jahson & Nickel B (electronica) 9 p.m. Free.
LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ Dayve Hockett (jazz) 7 p.m. Free.
MONTY'S OLD BRICK TAVERN Open Mic 6 p.m. Free
NECTAR'S Jerryfest with Blues for Breakfast (Grateful Dead tribute) 9 p.m. $5
ON TAP BAR & GRILL. Trivia with Top Hat Entertainment, 7 p.m. Free.
RADIO BEAN The Stephen Callahan Duartet (jazz) 6 p.m. Free Mike Bloom & Alan Samardjian (singer-songwriters) 8:30 p.m. Free. Honky Tonk Sessions (honky tonk) 10 p.m. $3.
RED SQUARE. Upsetta International with Super K (reggae), 8 p.m. Free.

central

BIG PICTURE THEATER & CAFÉ Cats Under the Stars (Jerry Garcia Band tribute) 7:30 p.m., $5
CHARLIE O'S Karaoke 10 p.m. Free
SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN Tattoo Tuesdays with Andree (jam) 5 p.m. Free.

champlain valley

RI MAIN Quizz Night (trivia) 7 p.m. Free
TWO BROTHERS TAVERN: Monster Hits Karaoke, 9 p.m. Free.

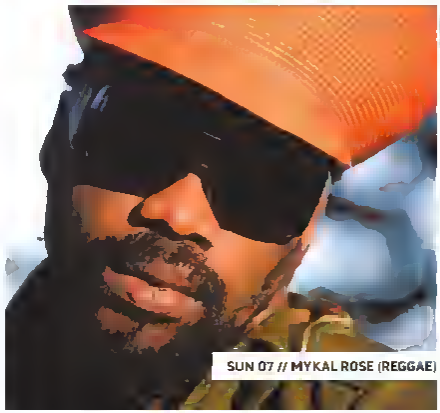
northern

BEE'S KNEES Lisa Ann Mulcahy (singer-songwriter) 7:30 p.m. Donations
MOOG'S Open Mic/Jam Night, 8:30 p.m. Free.

WED.10

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE Rewind with DJ Craig Mitchell 10 p.m.
BREAKWATER CAFÉ Mister French (rock) 6 p.m. Free.



Legend For more than a quarter of a century **MYKAL ROSE** has been among reggae's most provocative voices. Following a successful solo career, the singer joined seminal Grammy-winning outfit Black Uhuru, a band that was arguably the most popular reggae act post-Bob Marley, in the early 1980s. In the 1990s, Rose struck out on his own again, and reemerged as an influential figure in the Jamaican reggae scene. This Sunday, August 7, he plays a very special Mi Yard Reggae Night at Club Metronome.

CLUB METRONOME Burlington's Finest presents Dr. Ruckus, Swift Technique (funk) 9 p.m., $5.
FRANNY O'S Karaoke, 9:30 p.m., Free
LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ Live Music (jazz) 7 p.m. Free
LIFT DJs Wyld & Jazzy Janet (hip-hop) 9 p.m. Free/$5 18+
MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB Open Mic with Andy Lugo 10 p.m., Free.
MONKEY HOUSE Beat Vision with DJ Disco Phantom (eclectic DJ) 8 p.m. $1.
ON TAP BAR & GRILL. Pine Street Jazz 7 p.m. Free
PARIMA MAIN STAGE Too Tight Trio with Kip Meaker (blues) 7 p.m. $5.
RADIO BEAN. Ensemble V (jazz), 7:30 p.m. Free. Irish Sessions, 9 p.m., Free. Cajins (acoustic) 3 p.m., Free.
RED SQUARE DJ Cre8 (hip-hop) 11 p.m. Free The Amida Bourbon Project (rock) 7 p.m. Free.
THE SKINNY PANCAKE. The Amida Bourbon Project, Lisa Marie Fischer (rock) 8 p.m. $5.

central

BAGITOS Acoustic Blues Jam 6 p.m. Free
BIG PICTURE THEATER & CAFÉ Valley Night, Kurt Van Hook (singer-songwriter) 7:30 p.m., $5 donation.
THE BLACK DOOR: Comedy Open Mic with B.O.R. 9:30 p.m., Free
KISMET Extempo (storytelling) 8 p.m. Free
MULLIGAN'S IRISH PUB Open Mic with John Lackard 9 p.m. Free

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS Karaoke with Let It Rock Entertainment, 9 p.m. Free
GOOD TIMES CAFÉ Eric Taylor (acoustic) 8:30 p.m. $15
ON THE RISE BAKERY Open Bluegrass Session, 8 p.m. Donations

northern

BEE'S KNEES Ari Jacobson (singer songwriter) 7:30 p.m. Donations.
MOOG'S The Ramblers (bluegrass), 8:30 p.m. Free Rig John (acoustic), 8:30 p.m. Free
THE SHED RESTAURANT & BREWERY Sound Mind (rock), 8 p.m., Free.

regional

MONOPOLE Open Mic 8 p.m., Free. Ⓐ

VENUES.411

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HIGHER GROUND, 1214 Williston Rd. S. Burlington, 652-0777.

JP'S PUB, 139 Main St. Burlington, 658-6389.

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ, 115 Church St. Burlington, 863-3759.

LIFT, 165 Church St., Burlington, 660-2018.

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MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE, 25 Cherry St. Burlington, 854-4700.

MIGUEL'S ON MAIN, 30 Main St., Burlington, 658-8000.

MONKEY HOUSE, 30 Main St. Winooski, 655-4563.

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REVIEW



"Mill" by Walton Blodgett

Watercolor is often referred to as an unforgiving medium. In the hands of a novice it readily dissolves into a blurry disaster, but even the most proficient watercolorists need to, as John Singer Sargent once said, "make the best of an emergency" in every piece. One issue is that you can't effectively edit watercolors by painting over mistakes as you can with oils and acrylics. A good watercolorist needs to be not just technically astute, but fearless and confident as well.

More than 100 paintings by 10 highly accomplished artists are presented in "Masters of Vermont: The Watercolorists" at the Bryan Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville. The earliest works in the exhibition date from the late 19th century, but most are by 20th-century artists born in the decade before World War I.

Some of the oldest pieces in the show are by Martha Wood Belcher (1844-1930). Her unassuming watercolor sketch "Italian Workers II" was painted quickly from life — a notation on the back guesses its date as "about 1898?" Belcher's daughter, Hilda Belcher (1881-1963), became an accomplished artist in several media, studying with Robert Henri and George Bellows, among others, at the New York School of Art (now Parsons). Despite her travels, the younger Belcher called herself "a thoroughgoing Vermonter." Her stately watercolor here, a study for "The Knitted Shawl — a portrait of Miss Peck," is beautifully composed. Hilda Belcher has the strongest figurative pieces in this show.

The paintings of Walton Blodgett (1908-1963) have a neoclassical solidity and simplified approach to color. The tree trunks of "Snowy Woods" resemble a dense Corinthian colonnade festooned with snow. His "Mill" portrays monumental rural architecture in two-point perspective. Workers are dwarfed by the structure and its geometric surroundings.

Preconceived ideas abound regarding how watercolors, especially Vermont landscapes, should look. Robert Blair (1912-2003) broke the thin, washy mold. His watercolors are lush and extravagant with paint. "Pond and Mountains" is soaked with phthalo blue in the mountains and sky, and scumbled and scraped with darker hues in the pond. Blair was a World War II infantryman who documented the war in Europe with watercolors, and some of that rugged spontaneity appears in his peace-time works as well. In "Mansfield Late Autumn," background brush strokes are languid and broad, while foreground colors are splashed, dotted and slashed through the trees.

BLAIR HAD AN EYE FOR DETAIL THAT ENCOMPASSED THE ABSTRACT QUALITIES OF PERCEPTION AS WELL AS THE SIMPLE REALISM OF SIGHT.

Another expressionistic watercolorist is the noted Vermont artist Ronald Slayton (1910-1992). "Road Between the Cliffs" is a wet-on-wet painting based on a strong diagonal and vibrant hues. A patch of dark green in the lower right anchors the treacherous vista. "Purple Rocks" is an abstract scene of rocks and natural features enclosed in a lozenge shape. Slayton seems to play with positive and negative space at the edges of the composition.

Lucien Day (1916-2008) was a Vermonter with big-city connections who created the Green Mountain Gallery in Greenwich Village and later moved it to Soho. It was known for showing cutting-edge figurative art in a nonobjective era. "NYC 5 Views" is a 24-by-6-inch horizontal piece presenting five views of a building façade. Each bends toward the skyline.

Another unorthodox piece is Day's 7-feet-by-40-inch "Ovals." Two circles of trees in winter are stacked vertically in this oversized watercolor. Whether capturing the city or the woods, Day had an eye for detail that encompassed the abstract qualities of perception as well as the simple realism of sight. He received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Vermont Arts Council shortly before his death in 2008.

While watercolor is demanding, it is also quite versatile and aesthetically rewarding. Each of the painters showcased in this show is startlingly adroit, taking the medium well beyond its humble, watery beginnings.

MARC AWODEY

Masters of Vermont: The Watercolorists. Bryan Memorial Gallery, Jeffersonville. Through September 5.

ONGOING

burlington area

20/20 Work by 20 artists celebrating the gallery's 20th birthday. Through August 16 at Furchgott Sourdiffe Gallery in Shelburne. Info 985-3848.

A REVERENCE FOR TREES Work by artists from Vermont's Episcopal communities. Through August 31 at St. Paul's Cathedral in Burlington. Info 864-0471.

BARBARA LESLIE & FRAN STODDARD "Journey to Haiti" photographs that offer a glimpse into the lives of children and adults in a Haitian orphanage program. Proceeds benefit the cause. Through August 5 at Artspace 106 at The Men's Room in Burlington. Info 864-2068.

CECILIA MARSHALL "Shadowboxes," exquisitely detailed boxes by the New England artist. In Fletcher Room. Through August 14 at Fletcher Free Library in Burlington. Info 865-7211.

CYNTHIA SECONDI Oil and acrylic paintings of people and pets in Vermont and New York City. Through August 5 at Magnolia Breakfast & Lunch Bistro in Burlington. Info 862-7843.

ELLEN [BAMBI] LAPOINTE-FONTAINE "The Essence of Farming," watercolors, prints and plaster works depicting Vermont animals and landscapes. Through August 15 at Healthy Living in South Burlington. Info 878-8561.

VISUAL ART IN SEVEN DAYS
ART LISTINGS AND SPOTLIGHTS ARE WRITTEN BY **MEGAN JAMES**
LISTINGS ARE RESTRICTED TO ART SHOWS IN TRULY PUBLIC PLACES. EXCEPTIONS MAY BE MADE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE EDITOR.

GET YOUR ART SHOW LISTED HERE!
IF YOU'RE PROMOTING AN ART EXHIBIT, LET US KNOW BY POSTING INFO AND IMAGES BY THURSDAYS AT NOON ON OUR FORM AT **SEVENDAYSVT.COM/POSTEVENT** OR **GALLERIES@SEVENDAYSVT.COM**

EMILY BISSELL LAIRD "From This World and Beyond," oil paintings by the Charlotte artist. Through August 31 at Shelburne Vineyard. Info, 985-8222.

ETHAN AZARIAN Paintings by the artist who splits his time between Austin, Tx., and Plainfield, Vt. Through August 31 at Muddy Waters in Burlington. Info, 658-0466.

'GLOW: LIVING LIGHTS' Explore the ecology of bioluminescence with activities and live specimens, from the familiar firefly and glowworm to the alien-looking anglerfish and siphonaphore, the longest living creature on Earth. Through September 5 at ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center for Lake Champlain in Burlington. Info, 877-324-6346.

HANNAH FRASUR Mixed-media work by the Café Artist of the Month. Through August 31 at Barnes & Noble in South Burlington. Info, 864-8001.

IDA LUDLOW Work on paper by the artist who placed first in last year's South End Art Hop Juried Show. August 5 through 31 at Computers for Change in Burlington. Info, 279-1623.

JIM THOMPSON & KYLIE DALLY Hand-painted kites by Thompson; paintings by Dally. Through August 31 at Speaking Volumes in Burlington. Info, 540-0107.

JEAN LUC OUSHIME "Un Voyage," photographs of the American landscape by the African former refugee. A portion of the proceeds from print sales go to Diversity Rocks, the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program's youth group. Through August 31 at New Moon Café in Burlington. Info, 310-4555.

KIMBERLY GARLAND Layers of paint, recycled materials and trash on canvas by the Burlington visual and performance artist. Curated by SEABA. Through August 31 at Pine Street Deli in Burlington. Info, 862-9614.

LEWIS BURGENSTEIN "Legacy," three distinct bodies of work: abstract semi-encaustic paintings; figurative paintings documenting the lives of the working class during the Depression and Vermont landscapes in the Second Floor Gallery. Through August 13 at BCA Center in Burlington. Info, 865-7166.

'LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL: THE TERRY TYLER COLLECTION OF VERMONT FIREARMS' The 106 firearms on display represent a lifetime of collecting and document the history of gunmaking in Vermont from 1790 to 1900. **PAPERWORK IN 3D** Work by 25 contemporary origami, cut-paper and book artists. **'BEHIND THE LENS: UNDER THE BIG TOP'** Black-and-white circus photography from the late 1880s by Elliot Fenander. **'IN FASHION: HIGH STYLE, 1650-2011'** Costumes from the museum's permanent collection, plus borrowed works from today's top designers, including Karl Lagerfeld, Oscar de la Renta, Carolina Herrera and Balenciaga, among others. Through October 30 at Shelburne Museum. Info, 985-3346.

BURLINGTON-AREA ART SHOWS » P65

RECEPTIONS

BRADLEY A. FOX Painting a Life," work by the Vermont artist who died last year. Through August 10 at Julian Scott Memorial Gallery, Johnson State College. Reception Monday, August 8, 5-7 p.m. Info, 635-1469.

ANN PEMBER Member Show III" watercolors by the featured artist, plus work in a variety of media by more than 25 members. August 5 through 31 at Adirondack Art Association Gallery in Essex. Reception: Friday, August 5, 6-8 p.m. Info, 518-963-8309.

NICHOLAS HEILIG Live Art, black ink drawings created as performance set to live music. Through August 31 at SEABA Center in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 6-9 p.m. Info, 859-9222.

NO BOUNDARIES IN FIBER Innovative textile art by nine Vermont members of the national Surface Design Association. August 6 through September 17 at Rae Harrell Gallery in Hinesburg. Reception: Live music by Garrett Brown, Saturday, August 6, 5-9 p.m. Info, 482-4944.

'ELEMENTS PORTFOLIO' Hand-printed works by artists of the Northern Printmakers Alliance of Duluth, Minnesota. August 5 through 31 at Two Rivers Printmaking Studio in White River Junction. Reception: Friday, August 5, 6-8 p.m. Info, 295-5901.

VANESSA COMPTON & LYNA LOU NORDSTROM Compton's mixed-media collages explore the private moments in our lives; Nordstrom reveals in color and impulse with her monotype prints. Through August 27 at The Art House Gallery Studio & School in Craftsbury Common. Reception: Friday, August 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Info, 586-2545.

'DOWN ON THE FARM' Work by local and international photographers that pays tribute to people who work the land. Through August 12 at Vermont Photo Space: Darkroom Gallery in Essex Junction. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-7 p.m. Info, 777-3686.

SARA LONDON-HINMAN "What Is Lovely Never Dies," photography and paintings by the Burlington artist who died at 19 in 2006. A portion of proceeds go to the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association's Sara London-Hinman Scholarship Fund. Open Fridays 5-7 p.m. or by appointment. August 5 through 31 at Designhaus in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-8 p.m. Info, 310-5019.

TATIANA YAKUSHEVA New paintings by the Burlington artist. Through September 30 at Speaking Volumes in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-8 p.m. Info, 540-0107.

PHILIP HERBISON "Plastic Personae," close-up photographs of dramatic tension in plaster faces. Through September 30 at Artspace 106 at The Men's Room in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-8 p.m. Info, 864-2088.

PETER MILLER "French Wine," photographs of the Margaux wine harvest taken during the photographer's two weeks leave from the army in 1957; he developed the negatives right away but them in a folder and forgot about them until 2005. Through August 31 at Frog Hollow in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-8 p.m. Info, 863-6458.

BUSY WESTERN "Figuring the Figure," work depicting figures deconstructed until only the soul remains by the Smith College art student. August 5 through 30 at Salaam in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-8 p.m. Info, 658-8822.

CARRIE NAYER Oil paintings inspired by the natural world by the Vermont artist. Through September 7 at Vermont Institute of Natural Science in Quechee. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-7 p.m. Info, 359-5000.

'SYNERGETIC' Work by members of the art cooperative We Art Women, including Samantha Bellinger, Vanessa Compton, Ida Ludlow, Marni McKitrick, Vanessa Santos, Eugenio and Katherine Taylor. McBroom. Through August 27 at Block Gallery in Winooski. Reception: Friday, August 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Info, weartwomen@gmail.com.

CLAIRE VAN VLIET "Paper Works," pulp paintings by the renowned Vermont printmaker. Through September 30. Reception: Wednesday, August 10, 3-5 p.m. Governor's Office Gallery, Montpelier. Info, 888-1261.

CARRIE BAGALIO "Everyday Moments Caught on Canvas," paintings in brilliant colors focused on pop culture in small towns. Through August 31 at Red Square in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-8 p.m. Info, 318-2438.

AUGUST SHOW Work by painters Fred Ackel, Beth McAdams and Rob Eldridge, as well as potter Susan Delear. Through August 31 at Artist in Residence Cooperative Gallery in Enosburg Falls. Reception: Thursday, August 4, 5-8 p.m. Info, 933-6403.

'PALETTES FOR PAWS' Animal-inspired paintings, prints and drawings. Sales benefit the Central Vermont Humane Society. August 5 through 31 at Big Picture Theater & Café in Waitsfield. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-7 p.m. Info, 496-8994.

CATHERINE HALL "Figures and Faces," plaster and wax faces cast from distorted latex molds, and encaustic paintings of dolls and children's faces. Through August 5 at S.P.A.C.E. Gallery in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-8 p.m. Info, spacegalleryvt.com.

ADAM REVARNET "Dead Men Tell No Tales," paintings of weary and weathered ghosts of aviation. Through August 5 at Blackspace Gallery in Burlington. Reception, Friday, August 5, 5-8 p.m. Info, spacegalleryvt.com.

'FISK: THE STORY OF A VERMONT WEAVER DUBING THE ARTS AND CRAFTS MOVEMENT OF THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY' Tapestry-woven linens created by hand between 1890 and 1935 on colonial-era looms by Isle La Motta weaver Eliza Beth Fisk. Through August 31 at Island Arts South Hero Gallery. Reception, Friday, August 5, 5-7 p.m. Info, 928-3291.

'THE CHURCH OF CIRCUS' "A pop-up interactive art exhibit featuring work by Art Bell, Kat Clear, Clark Derbes, Andy Duback, Nancy Dwyer, Wylie Garcia, Elliott Katz, Abby Manock, Mr. Masterpope and Toni Lee Sangeatlano, August 5 through 31 at 152 Cherry Street in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-10 p.m.

'STILL LIFE: VARIATIONS ON A THEME' Work by Stacey Cushner, Jeffrey Ellse, Cynthia Hauk and Rachel Woodbrinn. **MICHAEL CAPPABIANCA** "The Material" photographs. **LIZ ROSS** "A Murder of Crows," oils on paper and canvas and **DAVID WESTBY** "Observatory" photographs. August 5 through September 2 at AVA Gallery and Art Center in Lebanon, N.H. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-7 p.m. Info, 603-448-3117.

FOURTH ANNUAL AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST & EXHIBIT Work by more than 150 photographers on the theme "Special Places: The Place We Like to Go." In the first floor galleries.

KATRINA MOJZESZ Work by the professional photographer, as well as photographs by other member artists. In the second floor galleries. August 6 through 27 at Chaffee Art Center in Rutland. Reception: Saturday, August 6, 4-7 p.m. Info, 775-0356.

ANANDA SCHIBNDB Acrylic paintings by the South Hero artist. Through August 31 at Vintage Jewelers in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-7 p.m. Info, 862-2233.

REN WALDEN "Oops, I Forgot My Makeup," a collaborative collection of hodgepodge occurrences curated by the Burlington artist. August 5 through 31 at The Firefly Collective in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-8 p.m. Info, 660-0754.

BETH BOQUEL NETELKOS "Tunnel Vision," abstract paintings. Through August 13 at Red Mill Gallery in Johnson. Reception: Sunday, August 7, 5-7 p.m. Info, 635-2727.

DOK WRIGHT "Aria," photographs that call attention to the smallest intricacies and exemplify the play of light and dark. Through August 5 at 156 The Loft in Burlington. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5-7 p.m. Info, 497-4401.

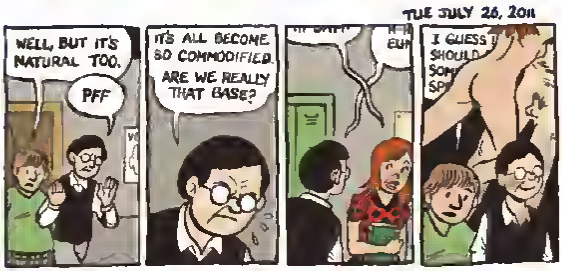


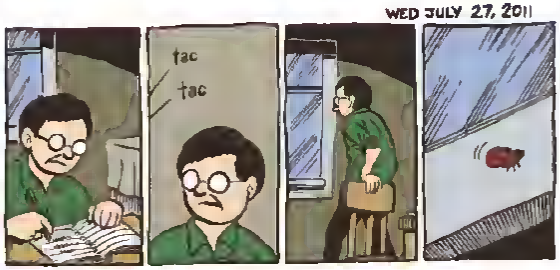


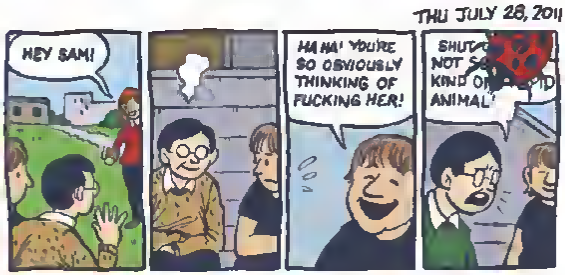
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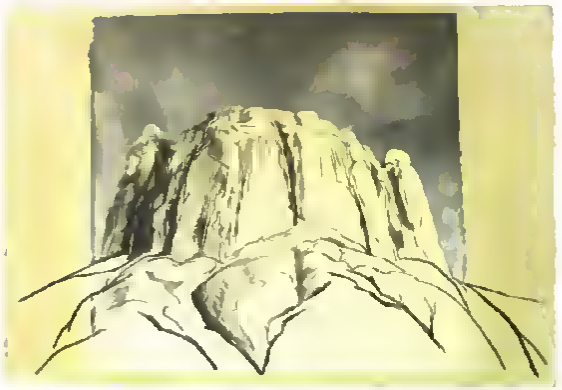




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DAKOTA is from the vast prairies of Saskatchewan. To hide from the endless sky's unblinking gaze, he started drawing comics when he was 5 years old. Currently, Dakota draws comics as a student at the Center for Cartoon Studies in White River Junction. You can read more of his daily comics strips at blog.dakotamcfadzean.com.

DRAWN & PANELED IS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN SEVEN DAYS AND THE CENTER FOR CARTOON STUDIES IN WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, FEATURING WORK BY PAST AND PRESENT STUDENTS. THESE PAGES ARE ARCHIVED AT **SEVENDAYSVT.COM/CENTER-FOR-CARTOON-STUDIES**. FOR MORE INFO VISIT THE CENTER ONLINE AT **CARTOONSTUDIES.ORG**



Claire Van Vliet

Since 1955, Claire Van Vliet, who is widely recognized as a master printmaker, has owned and operated the Janus Press in the tiny Northeast Kingdom town of Newark. She has published the works of writers such as Galway Kinnell, Seamus Heaney and Denise Levertov and illustrated them with original prints and pulp paintings. Van Vliet's work is in the permanent collections of the National Gallery in Washington, D.C., London's Victoria and Albert Museum and the Smithsonian Institution, to name a few. Over the next couple months, you'll find it closer to home in two separate shows: "Stone on Stone," at River Arts Center in Morrisville through August 15, and "Paper Works," at Montpelier's Governor's Office Gallery through the end of September. Pictured, "Ghost Mesa."

BURLINGTON AREA ART SHOWS « P83

MELISSA KNIGHT "Batik fabric collage depicting peacocks, hummingbirds, cardinals, sunflowers, irises and bluebonnets." Through August 31 at Uncommon Grounds in Burlington. Info, 865-6227.

MICHAEL SMITH "Mixed Bag," colorful acrylic paintings. Through August 31 at Brickels Gallery in Burlington. Info, 324-0272.

ORAH MOORE "Making Art," photographs by the Morrisville artist, and "Laundry Line Art," an interactive installation. Curated by SEABA. Through August 31 at VCAM Studio in Burlington. Info, 859-9222.

PATTY LEBON HERB "Acrylic paintings inspired by people the artist knows and places she has traveled." Through August 31 at Metropolitan Gallery, Burlington City Hall. Info, 865-7166.

PATTY SGRECCI "Mobiles by the Middlebury artist." Through August 31 at Opportunities Credit Union in Burlington. Info, 865-3404 ext. 130.

SANDY MILENS "Searching," work by the Vermont photographer. Curated by SEABA. Through August 31 at Speeder & Earl's (Pine Street) in Burlington. Info, 658-6018.

"THE CHILD IN ART" "Objects depicting children and childhood — from royal princesses to working-class youngsters, obedient kids to naughty little ones — from the museum's permanent collection." **ED KOREN** "**THE CAPRICIOUS LINE**," work from the *New Yorker* cartoonist's five-decade career, including drawings never exhibited before. Through September 2 at Fleming Museum, UVM in Burlington. Info, 656-2090.

"THE HENRY GORSKI RETROSPECTIVE: ART AS EVIDENCE OF SCIENCE" "Paintings by the late figurative expressionist juxtaposed with the scientific insight of Albert Levis, a social psychiatrist, creativity scholar and Gorski collector." Through August 31 at Union Station in Burlington. Info, 379-6350.

central

"ARTISTS ENVISIONING TUNBRIDGE: CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF HISTORY" "Paintings and photographs by more than 20 artists celebrating the town's sesquicentennial. A portion of proceeds benefit the library." Through September 23 at Tunbridge Public Library. Info, 889-9404.

BARBARA LEBER "Paintings by the Vermont artist." Through August 31 at Montpelier City Hall. Info, 223-0352.

"HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY WINDSOR, VT!" "A juried show." Through August 21 at Nuance Gallery in Windsor. Info, 674-9616.

JAN GHIRINGHELLI "The Still Life: Flora and Fruit," oil and acrylic paintings. Through August 31 at the Drawing Board in Montpelier. Info, 223-2902.

JEROME LIPANI "'The Great Turning: From the Homocentric to the Cosmocentric Worldview' an installation illustrating the California eco-philosopher Joanna Macy's book of the same title." Through August 5 at City Center in Montpelier. Info, 223-6805.

KAREN PETERSEN "A retrospective of the Braintree artist's sculptures and paintings." Through September 25 at Chandler Gallery in Randolph. Info, 728-9878.

MALCOLM WRIGHT & BRUCE PECK "Clay work by Wright and landscape prints by Peck, as part of the gallery's 'Living Vermont Treasures' guest artist series." Through September 30 at Collective — the Art of Craft in Woodstock. Info, 457-1298.

PHYLLIS CHASE "Colorful landscapes and interiors by the Vermont artist, in the portico between Cornell Library and Debevoise Hall." Through August 5 at Vermont Law School Environmental Law Center in South Royalton. Info, 831-1106.

CENTRAL VT SHOWS » P88



Be a Paper Doll at...

SEVEN DAYS

STRUT

AN ART HOP FASHION SHOW

SATURDAY, SEPT. 10

In the tent behind Maltex Bldg
Pine Street, Burlington
Runway shows 7 & 9 p.m.
food vendors, beer & wine

Followed by Seven Days' 16th Birthday Bash with Bonjour-Hi! until midnight

This September *Seven Days* is sponsoring Strut.
This September also marks our 16th birthday.
So we thought: **Why not dress up in paper?**
Newspaper, that is. *Seven Days* newspaper — Vermont's most fashionable newsprint.

Come to Strut* and then stay for the *Seven Days* birthday party. Wear an outfit or accessory utilizing *Seven Days* and you could **walk the runway and win Paper Doll prizes!**

SEABA

SOUTH END ART HOP

*Seven Days Strut is a ticketed Art Hop event, presented by SEABA. Tickets available in advance at the SEABA Center, 404 Pine St., Burlington, and at the event.

art

CALL TO ARTISTS

LAKE CHAMPLAIN THROUGH THE LENS Professional and amateur photographers are invited to submit work in color or black and white that reflects life on and around Lake Champlain. Categories include scenic, boats, people and pets, still life, nature and wildlife, and a special category – high waters. Ready-to-hang entries can be delivered to the museum between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. August 13 to 21. Show will be on view at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum September 4 through October 15. Download registration forms and guidelines at lcmm.org. Info, 475-2022 or email eloisel@lcmm.org.

CALL FOR ART: HARVEST SHOW Artists' Mediums is looking for artwork that celebrates the harvest! Visit artistsmediums.com for the complete rules and required forms. Deadline: August 10

CREATIVE SPACE GALLERY Call to artists: 2011 Fiber Arts Show "Flights of Fiber Fancy." Deadline August 14. $25 application fee required. Info, info@creatives-pacegallery.org

LOOKING FOR ARTISTS Looking to take in more artisans to expanding shop. If interested, contact on Facebook. The Willow Tree Llc.

ENTER 'NATURAL PLAYGROUND' For those passionate about their adventure and their photography show us the photographic moments you've captured that will inspire our next adventure. Info, darkroomgallery.com/ex20.

CULTUREHALL NEW ARTISTS Culturehall, a curated online resource for contemporary art, invites artists to submit work to an open application call. Apply at culturehall.com/apply.html.

ENGAGE A statewide exhibition of artwork by Vermont artists with disabilities. VSA Vermont seeks artwork that is of high artistic quality demonstrating originality, imagination, skillful use of materials, and quality of craft. Deadline: September 30. info@vsavt.org 655-7772.

2ND ANNUAL WINGS OF HOPE BUTTERFLY RELEASE The Visiting Nurse & Hospice of VT and NH is inviting artists to submit artwork that they feel will dovetail with the theme and spirit of the event and that can be used for advertising, the website, programs, posters, T-shirts and greeting cards for bereaved families. Submission deadline: August 12. Info, Robert Ellis, VNA & Hospice of VT and NH, 66 Benning Street, Suite 6, West Lebanon, NH 03784, rellis@vnavnh.org, 845-987-4212.

ART ON THE FENCE Saturday, August 6, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Each aspiring artist will have six feet of fence on which to display two-dimensional art. $10/adults and $5/students. Info, adele@stoweaccess.com or sandre@greenmountainfineart.com.

ART ON MAIN Saturday, August 6, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Each established artisan (12 spots) will be set up along Main Street under a white tent. $25 fee to participate. Info, adele@stoweaccess.com

PERSONA Beyond the traditional portrait. We're looking for uncanny parody, distortions, subtle suggestions and in your face implications. Deadline: August 16. Juror: Chris Buck. Info: darkroomgallery.com/ex19

VERMONT UPCYCLED ART SHOW The Black Gallery and Coffeehouse in Wilmington is hosting a group show in September of local artists who incorporate upcycling/recycling/repurposing of materials. Submissions deadline: August 1. Info: thinkaboutpuppies@yahoo.com

TALKS & EVENTS

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK More than 30 galleries and other venues around downtown stay open late to welcome pedestrian art viewers. Friday, August 5, 5–8 p.m. various downtown locations, Burlington. Info, 264-4839.

ALICE MURDOCH "Private Pleasures" oil paintings that focus on the complicated role of food in women's lives. Through September 24 at Amy E. Tarrant Gallery, Flynn Center in Burlington. Talk: Vermont author Bill Schubart reads from his book *Fat People*. Friday, August 5, 6:30 p.m. Info, 652-4500.

THE SHELBURNE ARTISTS MARKET Local artists and artisans sell their work, on the green. Saturday, August 6, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Shelburne Town Offices. Info, 985-3648.

'THOUGHT BOMBERS' JDK artists collaborate to create one-of-a-kind kites meant to evoke imagery that exists above and beyond our earthly lives. In the Main Gallery through August 20.

COMMUNITY KITES Children's kites created in workshops at Burlington's Integrated Arts and Sustainability Academies. In the Fourth Floor Gallery (through August 13). At BCA Center in Burlington. JDK artists offer a gallery workshop in which community members can make their own kites. Friday, August 5, 5–8 p.m. Info, 865-7166.

BCA SUMMER ARTIST MARKET Juried artists sell their handmade, original fine art and crafts. Saturday, August 6, 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Burlington City Hall Park. Info, 865-7166.

DR. SKETCHY'S ANTI ART SCHOOL Artists age 18+ and up bring sketchbooks and pencils to a beezy life-drawing session — this month's theme is "Steampunk Extravaganza — featuring live models and music. Wednesday, August 3, 8 p.m., American Legion, White River Junction.

ANN PEMBER Member Show III, watercolors by the featured artist, plus work in a variety of media by more than 25 members. August 5 through 31 at Adirondack Art Association Gallery in Essex. Coffee and conversation with the artist: Saturday, August 6, 10–11 a.m. Info, 518-963-8309.

'EXPOSED' Helen Day Art Center's 20th annual outdoor sculpture exhibition features local and international artwork, video screenings and performances. Through October 8 at various locations in Stowe. Artist video screening: Thursday, August 4, 6 p.m. A curator-led tour, as part of the Stowe Summer Arts Festival: Saturday, August 6, 1:30 p.m. Info, 253-8358.

'FESTIVAL OF FOOLS 2011' Outdoor musical performances, circus acts, art exhibits: an installation by Dux the Balloon Man and "30 Hours of Art," a celebration of BCA's 30th anniversary. Friday, August 5, 2–10 p.m.; Saturday, August 6, 12–10 p.m.; Sunday, August 7, 12–8 p.m.; various downtown locations, Burlington. Info, 865-7166.

DICK LOWE The artist discusses his public art projects as part of the college's MFA in Visual Arts Residency in Noble Lounge. Thursday, August 4, 4 p.m., Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier. Info, 828-8818.

'EXPO TODO CUBANO' DJ Tony Basanta curates a multimedia exhibit including photographer David Gartens "Cuban Musicians: Portraits From a Musical Island." **BARBARA LESLIE & FRAN STODDARD** "Haiti: Circle of Friends," color photography of Haiti (opening August 5). Through August 28 at Flynndog in Burlington. Haitian drumming and dance: Friday, August 5, 5–10 p.m. Info, 363-4746.

TIM FITZGERALD The local sculptor/doctor demonstrates his technique and discusses his studies in medicine and art, as part of the Stowe Art Festival. Friday, August 5, 6–8 p.m., Vermont Fine Art Gallery, Stowe. Info, 279-0332.

'BOB AIKEN' The Vermont artist discusses and demonstrates his technique as part of the Stowe Art Festival. Saturday, August 6, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Vermont Fine Art Gallery, Stowe. Info, 279-0332.

ART ON PARK Fine art, greeting cards, stained glass, spun-wool crafts, jewelry, children's totes and wings, ceramics and more make up this artisan market on Park Street, Stowe. Thursday, August 4, 6–8:30 p.m.

STOWE SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL Outdoor art exhibits, face painting and story telling for kids, culinary demonstrations and live music throughout the day. Saturday, August 6, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Stowe. Info, 253-1818.

'ZASTOLE: UNBIDING RUSSIAN CULTURE' The museum's fourth annual Russian exposition featuring work by artist Petr Shvetsov, poetry readings, a film screening and a Russian dinner with 15 types of vodka. Saturday, August 6, 5–10 p.m., Main Street Museum, White River Junction. Info, 291-1319.

TYLER LANG "For the Love of Science & Art," the illustrator discuss his creative career and the design business he co-owns. Always With Honor. Thursday, August 4, 5:30–7:30 p.m., ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington. Info, 864-1848.

CENTRAL VT ART SHOWS « P.65

SUSAN OSMOND Selected Moments," paintings of imagined landscapes, romantic architectural forms and mysterious figures. Open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed July 29 and August 26. Through August 31 at Supreme Court Lobby in Montpelier. Info, 828-0749.

'THE ART OF CHILDREN' Drawings, paintings and other creative work by children. Through August 31 at Capitol Grounds in Montpelier. Info, curator@capitolgrounds.com

'THE HISTORY OF GODDARD COLLEGE: AN ERA OF GROWTH, EXPANSION AND TRANSITIONS, 1960-1969' An exhibit of photographs, historical records, college papers, interviews and video recordings that focus on the college's response to the rapid growth of the 1960s. In the Eliot D. Pratt Library. Through December 20 at Goddard College in Plainfield. Info, 454-8311.

VARUJAN BOGHOSIAN & ERICK HUFSCHMID "New Collages and Constructions 2009–2011," work by the master collagist Boghosian; "A Muse — A Visit to the Studio of Varujan Boghosian," photographs by Hufschmid. Through August 22 at Big Town Gallery in Rochester. Info, 767-8870.

VERMONT COLLEGE GRADUATE EXHIBITION Work in a variety of media by 70 students from across the country taking part in the college's visual arts MFA program. Through August 6 at T.W. Wood Gallery in Montpelier. Info, 828-8743.

'VERMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS' The annual festival features art exhibits, demonstrations, performances and workshops throughout the month. For a complete listing of events, go to vermontartfest.com. Through September 5 at various locations in Mad River Valley. Info, 496-6682.

champlain valley

ART MAKES BRANDON TICK This year's townwide art project features artist-created, functional clocks, which will be auctioned off in October to benefit the BAG. Through October 8 at Brandon Artists Guild. Info, 247-4958.

FAIRFIELD PORTER: BAW — THE CREATIVE PROCESS OF AN AMERICAN MASTER' Finished and unfinished works by the artist and critic, a realist during an era when abstraction dominated American art. Through August 7 at Middlebury College Museum of Art. Info, 443-5433.

JEFF SHEWSTER "Boats — Water — On the Water," manipulated photographs, digital graphics and silkscreens inspired by natural reflections on the water by the artist, educator and tugboat captain. Through August 21 at Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vergennes. Info, 475-2022.

JERI CANFIELD & NICK ROSATO "Home Is Where the Art Is": quilted textiles by Canfield; hardwood kitchen and garden accessories by Rosato. Through August 15 at Art on Main in Bristol. Info, 453-4032.

JUDITH REILLY "e-i-e-i-o: Judith Reilly Out Behind the Barn," fabric and stitchery inspired by rural life. Through August 30 at Brandon Artists Guild. Info, 247-8421.

LOCOMOTION: REFLECTIONS FROM THE AMERICAN ROAD TRIP' Work by Sara Katz, Jeff Bye, Charlie Hunter, Sean Thomas and Eric Tobin. Through August 14 at Edgewater Gallery in Middlebury. Info, 458-0088.

SCOTT FUNK "Vermont: Through the Seasons," photographs by the Vermont artist. Through August 31 at Gallery 160 in Richmond. Info, 434-6434.

SUSAN YOUNG & PAM BROWN "The Body Speaks," Young's ceramic forms are low-fired to retain a flesh-like imprint; Brown's mixed-media pieces explore the relationship between organic and industrial. Through August 21 at Gallery 259 in West Rutland. Info, 438-2097.

'THE POWER OF PLACE: LANDSCAPES AND MINDSCAPES FROM VERMONT' Work by Linda Durkee, Judith Reilly, Phoebe Stone and Dick Weis. Through September 1 at Gallery In-the-Field in Brandon. Info, 247-0145.

TOM MEDWIN "Drawing Water," central Vermont's waterfalls and gorges depicted in sumi ink, watercolor and oil on canvas. Through November 30 at Merwin Gallery in Castleton. Info, 468-2592.

'VERMONT LANDSCAPES LOST AND FOUND' Historic landscape photographs from the museum's collection contrasted with present-day snaps of the same locations. Through October 22 at Sheldon Museum in Middlebury. Info, 388-2117.

'VISIONS OF PLACE: THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF JOHN MILLER, PETER MILLER AND RICHARD BROWN' Work by the veteran Vermont photographers who have each returned repeatedly to particular farmsteads, families and individuals over the last 40 years to create a nuanced record of the region. Through September 3 at Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury. Info, 388-4964.

northern

ADELAIDE TYROL & REBECCA KINKEAD "Vivre/To Live": paintings by Kinkead who evokes the brightness of summer and Tyrol who conjures another world. Through August 7 at West Branch Gallery & Sculpture Park in Stowe. Info, 253-8943.

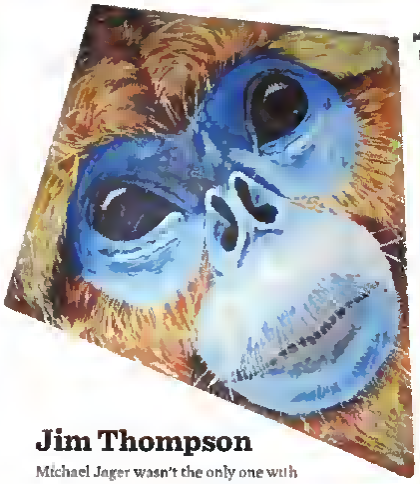
'BEST OF THE NORTHEAST: MASTER OF FINE ARTS' Work by seven of the strongest emerging artists participating in MFA programs in New England, New York and Quebec. Through September 4 at Helen Day Art Center in Stowe. Info, 253-8358.

'BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH: THE VERMONT IMPRESSIONISTS' Work by some of New England's best-known landscape artists: Charles Movalli, T.M. Nicholas, Donald Allen Mesher, Tom Hughes and Eric Tobin. Through September 29 at Green Mountain Fine Art Gallery in Stowe. Info, 253-1818.

CLAIRE VAN VLIET "Stone on Stone," lithographs by the master printmaker. Through August 15 at River Arts Center in Morrisville. Info, 888-1261.

ELIZABETH NELSON "Six Seasons," landscape paintings. Through August 28 at White Water Gallery in East Hardwick. Info, 563-2037.

'HABITAT FOR ARTISTS' Three 8-by-6-by-8-foot structures, open to the public in downtown Stowe, Morrisville and Waitsfield, serve as temporary studios for working artists. Hosted by Helen Day Art Center, Vermont Festival of the Arts and River Arts. Through September 25 at various locations. Info, 253-8358.



Jim Thompson

Michael Jager wasn't the only one with kites on the brain last spring. Around the same time the JDK director was developing "Thought Bombers," his BCA Center exhibit of unusual kites, Montpelier artist Jim Thompson was painting faces on his own handmade kites. Like Jager, Thompson loved the idea of otherworldly eyes gazing down at him from a canvas in the sky. In Thompson's case, those eyes usually belong to wild animals: lions, apes, owls and polar bears. His kites — which are all designed to fly — accompany paintings by Vermont artist Kylie Dally at Burlington's Speaking Volumes through August 31. Pictured: a kite by Thompson.

'HOOFING IT' Depictions of hoofed animals, from antelopes to zebras, in paint, wood, clay, felt, woodblock prints, photographs and rugs. Through August 8 at Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild Backroom Gallery in St. Johnsbury. Info, 748-0581.

KATIE CROWN "Sporangium: Drawings and Botanicals," abstract drawings and botanical sculptures by the studio center staff artist, in Gallery II. Through August 28 at Vermont Studio Center in Johnson. Info, 635-2727.

KEN LESLIE Drawings, paintings and limited-edition prints of the Vermont artist's "Arctic Cycle" works, which move through time as they complete 360° panoramas of the landscape in Arctic regions. Through September 4 at Claire's Restaurant & Bar in Hardwick. Info, 472-7053.

LES ALDRIDGE Oil paintings and pencil drawings by the local artist. Through August 31 at St. Johnsbury Athenaeum. Info, 563-2495.

MARC AWODEY Paintings by the Vermont artist, in the Wings Gallery. Through August 8 at Dibden Center for the Arts, Johnson State College. Info, 635-1469.

MARIE LAPRE GRABON Drawings, paintings and mixed-media work by the Vermont artist. Through September 12 at Bee's Knees in Morrisville. Info, 888-7869.

MICHELLE SAFRAN "Searchers," a photographic journey by the Vermont artist. Through September 4 at Emile A. Gruppe Gallery in Jericho. Info, 899-3211.

SAM THURSTON "Cityscapes and Landscapes: Here and Away," drawings and paintings of Lowell, Mass., Newport, R.I., New York City and Morrisville, Vt., in the Common Space. Through August 15 at River Arts Center in Morrisville. Info, 744-6859.

SHAWNA CROSS "Tell Me Your Secrets," paintings by the Vermont artist. Through August 14 at Cosmic Bakery & Café in St. Albans. Info, shawna@shawnacross.com.

'TAKE A SEAT IN THE ISLANDS' Maple and poplar benches decorated by 16 local artists. For a map, go to champlainislands.com. Through August 13 at Various locations in Champlain Islands. Info, 372-8400.

VANESSA COMPTON Collages and paintings by the Vermont artist. Through September 5 at Parker Pie Co. in West Glover. Info, 525-3041.

southern

SABRA FIELD "Vermont Artist, World Vision," woodblock prints. **ELIZABETH TORAR** "The Feast of Venus: An Exploration of the Artist's Process," paintings and drawings. **'THREE CONTEMPORARY SCULPTORS'** work by Duncan Johnson, John Kemp Lee and Gary Haven Smith, at the Elizabeth de C. Wilson Museum. Through October 16 at Southern Vermont Arts Center in Manchester. Info, 362-1405.

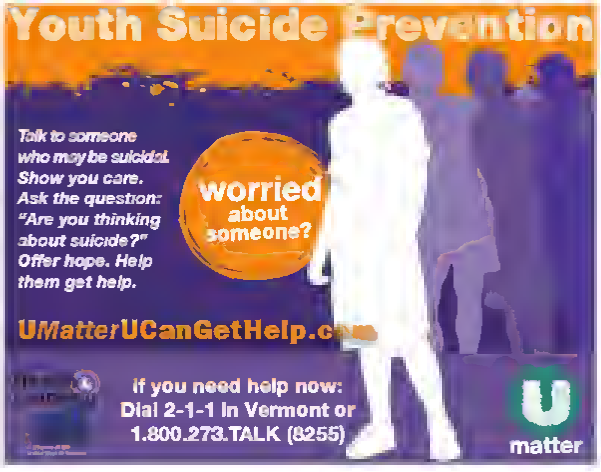
'SUMMER SPOTLIGHT' Sculpture by Gwen Murphy; sculptural baskets by Jackie Abrams; pen-and-ink drawings by Edward A. Kingsbury III; and paintings by Anna Bayles-Arthur, Karen Kamenetzky and Richard Heller. Through August 30 at Gallery in the Woods in Brattleboro. Info, 257-4777.

regional

'EMBRACING ELEGANCE, 1885-1920: AMERICAN ART FROM THE HUNER FAMILY COLLECTION' Paintings and drawings featuring intimate, informal subjects captured in a personally expressive manner by artists including Cecilia Beaux, Joseph DeCamp and John Singer Sargent (through September 4). **'FLUXUS AND THE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS OF LIFE'** Work by the international network of artists, composers and designers led by George Maciunas, who blurred the boundaries between art and life and became the 1960s' cultural phenomenon known as Fluxus (through August 7) at Hood Museum, Dartmouth College, in Hanover, N.H. Info, 603-646-2808.

'THE ART OF WAR: TICONDEROGA AS EXPERIENCED THROUGH THE EYES OF AMERICA'S GREAT ARTISTS' The museum's 50 most important artworks, exhibited together for the first time. Through October 20 at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y. Info, 518-585-6370.

'THE FASHION WORLD OF JEAN PAUL GAULTIER FROM THE SIDEWALK TO THE CATWALK' Ensembles by the French couturier — dubbed fashions *enfant terrible* by the press from the time of his first runway shows in the 1970s — presented on animated mannequins. Through October 2 at Montréal Museum of Fine Arts. Info, 514-285-2000.





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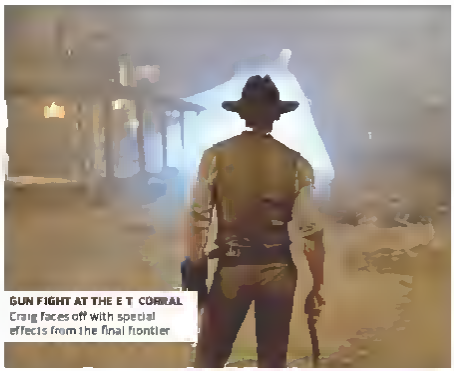
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Cowboys & Aliens ★★



GUN FIGHT AT THE E T CORRAL
Craig faces off with special effects from the final frontier

I feel a little silly griping that a summer blockbuster entitled *Cowboys & Aliens* turned out to be disappointingly silly. On the other hand, I had good reason to expect a different caliber of movie. Namely, every interview with its stars and creators that I'd read in recent weeks.

Again and again, Daniel Craig, Harrison Ford and director Jon Favreau pointed out to journalists how key an artistic decision it was to play this genre mashup straight. For example, here's an exchange from *Entertainment Weekly*:

EW: Whose idea was it to make it a more serious, deadpan, alien invasion film?

JON FAVREAU: Ron Howard ... That's one of the things he did.

DANIEL CRAIG: So we all decided to tell a story. A journey of redemption ... So we just played the reality of it.

Take this premise and treat it as camp, satire or parody, they told anyone who'd listen — or read — and you've got a totally different sort of picture. One they claimed to have no interest in making. But wound up making anyway.

Things start out promisingly enough with Craig riding into a small frontier town with a hunk of high-tech something-or-other on his wrist and zero memory of how he got it, who he is or where he's been. Though he lives in the 19th century, he's a 21st-century vision of the Man With No Name.

Things go downhill in a hurry, though, as we come to realize the townsfolk are the handiwork of the Writing Team With No Imagination. No fewer than five scribes contributed to the screenplay, and the best they could come up with was a parade of outer clichés: the gun-toting preacher (Clancy Brown); the understaffed sheriff (Keith Carradine); the mild-mannered doctor/saloon keeper (Sam Rockwell), the barroom beauty (Olivia Wilde), the Native American cowhand (Adam Beach), the ruthless cattle baron (Ford), and so on.

Craig's character is about to be taken into custody (his face appears on a Wanted poster) when a squadron of insect-shaped spaceships descends from the heavens zapping and bombing random targets before lassoing bystanders and yanking them into the night.

Here's where the filmmakers really blew it. If they indeed had played it straight, something genuinely fascinating and original would've happened next. We would have observed human beings who have no concept of space travel struggling to comprehend what they'd just witnessed. Can you imagine the emotional and psychological possibilities?

Well, you'll have to, because Favreau and company are firmly stuck in comic book gear and don't broach the topic. Instead, a posse is formed. Craig and Ford — who essentially run the town — put aside their differences and saddle up to lead a gaggle of locals on a search for the abducted.

Remember that bracelet? It turns out Craig's character had occasion to lift it from the mothership (long story), and it can blow up anything and everything extraterrestrial. Now, why would the extraterrestrials bring such a thing? It is, after all, the only weapon that gives the human race a fighting chance of survival. Otherwise this war of the worlds would've been waged with Winchesters and bows and arrows.

The more pressing question, of course, is how a movie whose producers include Ron Howard and Steven Spielberg ended up such a snooze with regard to its intergalactic visitors. Forget for a moment that we're told they've come to mine gold — exsqueeze me? Far more inexplicably, they're as underdeveloped and generic as space creatures get. Think Cocoon, E.T. and the rest of the pair's distinguished sci-fi oeuvre. Compared with those inspired encounters, this doesn't even come close.

RICK KISONAK

REVIEWS

Crazy, Stupid, Love. ★★★



PASSING THE BAR
Gosling teaches Carell to be less Michael Scott and more hot in Ficarra and Requa's comedy

Imagine a restaurant meal that starts with an inventive charcuterie board, continues with an iceberg-lettuce salad, segues into a nice hunk of beef marinated in boozy sauce, and concludes with Jell-O and Cool Whip. That's roughly analogous to the experience of watching *Crazy, Stupid, Love*.

For each dark, tangy or authentic moment this romantic comedy offers, there are several scenes of overprocessed, underspiced Hollywood fare. The writing team of John Requa and Glenn Ficarra (*Bad Santa*) made their directorial debut last year with *I Love You Phillip Morris*, a film that gleefully mocked every movie cliche of romance and domesticity, yet never gave viewers much reason to care. By contrast, the far more commercial *Crazy, Stupid, Love.* (written by Dan Fogelman) bends over backward to make us care about a half-dozen connected characters struggling with issues of finding, winning or keeping a soulmate. Or, if all else fails, stalking one.

Steve Carell plays Cal, a soft-spoken suburban dad whose cozy existence frays when his wife of 25 years, Emily (Julianne Moore), leaves him. The movie's most original conceit is that Cal could easily have averted this crazy, stupid breakup, because Emily's guilty yammering makes it obvious she still loves him. Her husband, however, is so mortified by her confession that she slept with a coworker (Kevin Bacon) that he'd rather jump from a moving car than hear her out to the tearful apology. The audience already knows how the film will end: with a reunion. The question is, How many laughs will we get along the way?

Liberated from his marriage, Cal spends his evenings in a soulless pickup bar complaining about being a cuckold to anyone who will listen. Few do, but eventually one of the other barflies, a slick young player named Jacob (Ryan Gosling) offers to teach Cal the tricks of his trade and help him "rediscover his manhood." It works — sort of.

Meanwhile, elsewhere in the movie, Cal's lovesick 13-year old son (Jonah Bobo) is striving to win the heart of his older babysitter (Analeigh Tipton), who herself is enamored of Cal. If this subplot sounds like contrived and cloying farce it is, though the young actors don't embarrass themselves as much as their characters do.

Finally, even pickup artist Jacob starts feeling the love when he meets a straitlaced law student (Emma Stone) who doesn't fall for his standard moves. Stone and Gosling have one scene together that's a screwball showstopper — call it the boozy beef course. But it might as well be their last, since their characters are subsequently reduced to props while the kids and the midlifers work out their issues.

Crazy, Stupid, Love is an above-average romantic comedy with a decent quotient of laughs, but it relies too much on wacky coincidences and heartwarming homilies to fulfill the promise of its initial scenes. When the script tries for farce or poignancy, it skirts perilously close to the Velveeta territory of *Valentine's Day*.

That's unfortunate, because there's potential for meaty tragicomedy in the tale of Cal's abject devotion to Emily (which dates from middle school) her dissatisfaction with his unwavering adoration and his sense of emasculation when she defects. Carell has perfected the role of the mealymouthed nice guy with a dark side, and some of his throwaway reactions are the funniest bits in the film. Now he just needs to take a cue from his Oscar-nominated costars and move beyond the cinematic equivalent of fast food.

MARGOT HARRISON

NEW IN THEATERS

THE CHANGE-UP It's *Freaky Friday* midlife-crisis edition. Family man Jason Bateman switches bodies with his slickster slacker friend Ryan Reynolds, and comedy ensues. With Leslie Mann and Olivia Wilde. David (*Wedding Crashers*) Dobkin directed. (113 min. R. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Palace, Roxy, Stowe, Sunset)

RISE OF THE PLANET OF THE APES So, how did those apes take over planet Earth, anyway? In this reboot/slash-prequel to the sci-fi classic, we discover that genetic engineering and state-of-the-art CGI creature rendering were involved. Starring James Franco, Freida Pinto, Andy Serkis and John Lithgow. Rupert (*The Escapist*) Wyatt directed. (104 min. PG-13. Bijou, Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Marquis, Palace, Roxy, Sunset, Welden)

ratings

★ = refund, please
★★ = could've been worse, but not a lot
★★★ = has its moments, so-so
★★★★ = smarter than the average bear
★★★★★ = as good as it gets

RATINGS ASSIGNED TO MOVIES NOT REVIEWED BY **NICK KISONAK** OR **MARGOT HARRISON** ARE COURTESY OF METACRITIC.COM, WHICH AVERAGES SCORES GIVEN BY THE COUNTRY'S MOST WIDELY READ MOVIE REVIEWERS

NOW PLAYING

BAD TEACHER★★ Cameron Diaz plays the title character, a foul-mouthed, incompetent educator angling for a rich husband so she can escape the classroom. In this comedy from director Jake (*Walk Hard*) Kasdan. With Justin Timberlake, Lucy Punch and Jason Segel. (89 min. R. Sunset, ends 8/4)

BEGINNERS★★★1/2 Christopher Plummer plays a man who makes a surprising late-life change — he comes out of the closet. — In this drama from director Mike (*Thumbsucker*) Mills. Ewan McGregor is his adult son. With Mélanie Laurent and Goran Visnjic. (104 min. R. Palace, ends 8/4)

BILL CUNNINGHAM NEW YORK Richard Press' documentary profiles the octagenarian *New York Times* fashion photographer who lives in Carnegie Hall and bikes around town seeking great shots. (84 min. NR. Savoy)

BRIDESMAIDS★★★★1/2 Can a wedding-centric comedy from a female point of view be funny? Director Paul Feig and writer-star Kristen Wiig attempt to beat the odds with this Judd Apatow-produced tale of a single woman who agrees to be her best friend's maid of honor. With Maya Rudolph and Rose Byrne. (125 min. R. St. Albans, Sunset)

BUCK★★★★ Cindy Meehl directed this documentary about Buck Brannaman, the Cesar Milan of the horse world, whose special empathy with equines has impressed, among others, Robert Redford. (88 min. PG. Essex, Savoy)

CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE FIRST AVENGER★★★1/2 The Marvel master plan proceeds apace with this World War II-era origin story of a 95-pound weakling (Chris Evans) who becomes a turbo-charged freedom fighter thanks to "Super-Soldier Serum." With Hayley Atwell, Tommy Lee Jones and Hugo Weaving. Joe (*The Wolfman*) Johnston directed. (124 min. PG-13. Big Picture, Bijou, Capitol, 3-D. Essex, 3-D. Majestic, 3-D, Marquis, Palace, Roxy, Stowe, Sunset, Welden)

CARS 2★★★ A racecar and a tow truck encounter espionage intrigue on their way to the World Grand Prix in Pixar's sequel to its 2006 animated hit about a world populated by driverless automobiles. Maybe the next sequel will tackle peak oil. With the voices of Owen Wilson, Larry the Cable Guy and Michael Caine. John Lasseter and Brad Lewis directed. (113 min. G. Majestic, Palace)

COWBOYS & ALIENS★★ Daniel Craig plays a mysterious loner who finds himself facing an alien invasion ... in the Old West. With Harrison Ford, Sam Rockwell and Olivia Wilde. Jon (*Iron Man*) Favreau directed, and Vermonter Hawk Ostby co-wrote the script, based on the graphic novel. (118 min. PG-13. Bijou, Essex, Capitol, Majestic, Marquis, Palace, Roxy, St. Albans, Stowe, Sunset, Welden)

CRAZY, STUPID, LOVE★★★ A settled suburbanite (Steve Carell) whose marriage is on the skids receives dating tutelage from a bar-scene player (Ryan Gosling) in this ensemble comedy from the *Bad Santa* team of Glenn Ficarra and John Requa. With Julianne Moore, Emma Stone and Analeigh Tipton. (118 min. PG-13. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Palace, Roxy, Sunset)

FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS★★★ In the year's second romantic comedy on this theme, two friends (Justin Timberlake and Mila Kunis) decide to share their movie-star attractive bodies with each other and discover that — gasp! — the new relationship is more than they bargained for. With Patricia Clarkson, Jenna Elfman, Woody Harrelson and Emma Stone. Alex (*Easy A*) Gluck directed. (109 min. R. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Palace, Roxy, Sunset)

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 2★★★★ With the whole wizarding world under siege, the young spellcaster gears up for his final battle with Lord Voldemort. And everyone involved with the Rowling film franchise polishes up his or her résumé. With Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, Rupert Grint and Alan Rickman. David Yates again directs. (130 min. PG-13. Big Picture, Bijou, Essex, 3-D. Majestic, 3-D. Marquis, 3-D. Palace, Paramount, 3-D. Roxy, Stowe, Sunset, Welden)

HORRIBLE BOSSES★★★★ This being the recession, three put-upon employees (Jason Bateman, Jason Sudeikis and Charlie Day) apparently can't just quit. So they hatch a plan to murder their titular supervisors instead. In this comedy from director Seth Gordon. With Kevin Spacey, Colin Farrell and Jennifer Aniston as the bosses. (100 min. R. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Palace, Roxy, Sunset)

MIDNIGHT IN PARIS★★★★ An American screenwriter (Owen Wilson) vacationing in Paris discovers another side of the city after dark — namely, shades of its artistic past — in the latest from Woody Allen. With Rachel McAdams, Marion Cotillard and Tom Hiddleston. (98 min. PG-13. Roxy)

PAGE ONE: INSIDE THE NEW YORK TIMES★★★ Andrew Rossi's acclaimed documentary looks at a year in the life of the venerable newspaper, examining scandals, day-to-day reporting and the struggles to adapt to a new media landscape. (88 min. R. Palace, Savoy)

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Cowboys & Aliens 1 20, 4 6 50 9 15 **The Smurfs** 1:10 3 30, 6 30 8 30 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 1 3 50 7 8 15 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** 12:50, 3 40 6 40 9 15

friday 5 — thursday 11
***Rise of the Planet of the Apes** 1:30 3 50 6 40, 9 15, **Cowboys & Aliens** 1 20 4 6 50, 9 15 **The Smurfs** 1 10, 3 30, 6 30 8 30 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 1 7 9 15 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** 3 40

CAPITOL SHOWPLACE

93 State St. Montpelier 229-0343, www.lghtheaters.com

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Cowboys & Aliens 1:30 6 30, 9 **Crazy, Stupid, Love** 1:30 6 30 9 **Captain America: The First Avenger** (3 D) 1 30 6 30 9 **Friends With Benefits** 1 30, 6 30, 9 **Horrible Bosses** 9 **Zookeeper** 1 30, 6:30

friday 5 — thursday 11
***Rise of the Planet of the Apes** 1 30 6 30, 9 ***The Change-Up** 1 30 6 30, 9 **Cowboys & Aliens** 1 30 6 30, 9 **Crazy, Stupid, Love** 1 30 6 30, 9 **Captain America: The First Avenger** (3-D) 1 30 6 30 **Friends With Benefits** 9

ESSEX CINEMA

Essex Shoppes & Cinema, Rte. 15 & 289 Essex, 879-6543, www.essexcinemas.com

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Cowboys & Aliens 12, 2 30 5 7 30 10. **Crazy, Stupid, Love** 12 10, 2 40 5 10 7 40, 10:10 **The Smurfs** 12 (3-D) 1, 2:25 (3 D) 4 50 (3-D) 6 30, 7 15 (3 D) 9 40 (3 D) **Buck** 12:20 2 30 4 40 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 12:40, 1 10 (3-D) 3 40 4 10 (3-D) 6 40 7 10 (3 D) 9 15, 9:50 (3-D) **Friends With Benefits** 12 2 30 5 7 30 10. **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** 1 (3-D) 3 30 4 (3 D) 7 (3 D) 9, 10 (3 D) **Winnie the Pooh** 1 10 2 55 4 40 **Horrible Bosses** 9 45 **Transformers: Dark of the Moon** 6 35

friday 5 — tuesday 9
***Rise of the Planet of the Apes** 12 10 2 30 5 7 25 9 50 ***The Change-Up** 12:10 2 40 5 10 7 35 10 **Cowboys & Aliens** 12 2 30 5, 7 30 10. **Crazy, Stupid, Love** 12 45 3 45 6 45 9 40 **The Smurfs** 12 (3 D) 1 2:25 (3 D) 4 50 (3 D) 6 30 7 15 (3-D) 9 40 (3 D) **Captain America: The First Avenger** 12:40 1 10 (3 D) 3 15 4 10 (3-D) 7:10 (3-D) 9 50 (3-D) **Friends With Benefits** 1 10 4 6 50 9 30 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** 1 (3 D) 3 30 4 (3-D) 7 (3-D), 9, 9:45 (3 D)

MAJESTIC 10

180 Boxwood St. (Maple Tree Place, Taft Corners) Williston 878-2010 www.majestic10.com

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Cowboys & Aliens 11 30 a.m. 2 4 30 6 7 05 8 35 9 35 **Crazy, Stupid, Love** 12:50, 3 40 6 40 9:20 **The Smurfs** 11:40 am 2 10 (3 D), 3 30 4 35 (3-D) 7 (3 D) 9 25 9 30 (3 D) **Captain America: The First Avenger** 12:30 1 10 (3-D) 4 (3 D) 6 30, 6 55 (3 D) 9 35 (3-D) **Friends With Benefits** 1 20, 4 10 7 10 9 45 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2** 12:40 (3 D) 1 40 3 50 (3 D) 6 20, 6 50 (3-D), 9 10, 9:40 (3 D) **Winnie the Pooh** 11 50 a.m. 4:25. **Horrible Bosses** 7 15 9 30. **Zookeeper** 12 2 20 4 40 **Transformers: Dark of the Moon** 3 20 9 15 **Cars 2** 1

friday 5 — tuesday 9
***Rise of the Planet of the Apes** 12 10, 2 30 3 20 4 50 7 15 8 45 9 40 ***The Change-Up** 1 30 4 30 7 10, 9 45 **Cowboys & Aliens** 1 20, 4 20 7 9 35 **Crazy, Stupid, Love** 12 50 3 40 6 20 9 **The Smurfs** 12 (3-D) 1, 2 20 (3-D) 4 40, 6 55 (3-D) 9 15 **Captain America: The First Avenger** (3-D) 1 10 3 50 6 40 9 25 **Friends With Benefits** 12 40, 4 6 50 9 30 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. Part 2** 12 30 (3-D) 3 30 (3-D) 6 6 30 (3 D) 9 20 (3-D) **Winnie the Pooh** 12:20 2 10 **Horrible Bosses** 7 20 9:40 **Cars 2** (2 D) 4 10

MARQUIS THEATER

Main St., Middlebury 388-4841

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Cowboys & Aliens 2:30 6 30 9 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 2 30 6 30 9 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** (3-D) 3 6 9 **Winnie the Pooh** 1 30 5

friday 5 — thursday 11
***Rise of the Planet of the Apes** 2 30 6 9 **Cowboys & Aliens** 2 30 6 30, 9 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 2, 9 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. Part 2** (3 D) 4 15 6 30.

MERRILL'S ROXY CINEMA

222 College St., Burlington, 864-3456 www.merrillstheatres.net

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Cowboys & Aliens 1 25 4 10, 7 9 30 **Crazy, Stupid, Love.** 1 15 3 45 6 45 9 10 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 1 10 3 50 6 50 9 25 **Friends With Benefits** 1 20 4 7 05 9 35 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2** 1:05 3 40 6 40 **Horrible Bosses** 9 15 **Midnight in Paris** 1 3:05, 5 10, 7 15, 9:20

friday 5 — tuesday 9
***Rise of the Planet of the Apes** 1 20 4 5 40 8 45 ***The Change-Up** 1:05 3 40 7 05 9 15 **Cowboys & Aliens** 1 25 4 10 7 9 30 **Crazy, Stupid Love.** 1 15 3 45 5 45 9 10 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 1 10 3 50 6 50 9:25 **Midnight in Paris** 1 3 05 5 10, 7 15, 9:20

PALACE CINEMA 9

10 Fayette Dr. South Burlington, 864-5610 www.palace9.com

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
******Transcendent Man Live With Ray Kurzweil** Wed 8. *****Electric Daisy Carnival Event** Thu 9 **Cowboys & Aliens** 1 4 6 45 9 20 **Crazy, Stupid, Love** 10 30 a.m. (Thu only) 1:10 3:50 6:50 9:30 **The Smurfs** 10:30 a.m. (Thu only) 12 20 2:20 4 25 6:35, 8 35 (Wed only) **Captain America: The First Avenger** 12 30 3:20 4 15 6 30 9 10 (Thu only) 9:45 **Friends With Benefits** 1:05 3 45 6 55 9:35 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** 12 15 1 15 3 15 6 15 7 9 15 **Winnie the Pooh** 10 30 a.m. (Thu only) 12:25 2 10 **Beginners** 5 25 **Horrible Bosses** 4 10 7 05 (Thu only) 9:25 **The Tree of Life** 3:25, 8:45 **Cars 2** 12:45

friday 5 — tuesday 9
*****Angels & Airwaves Presents Love Live** Wed 8 *****DC 2011: Big, Loud & Live** 8 Thu 6 30. ***Rise of the Planet of the Apes** 1:25 4 15 6 55 9 25 ***The Change-Up** 10 30 a.m. (Thu only) 1 15 4 05 7 9 40 **Page Dan: Inside the New York Times** 12 20 2:25 4 30 6 40 **Cowboys & Aliens** 1 3 55 6 45 9 20 **Crazy, Stupid, Love** 10:30 a.m. (Thu only) 1 10 3 50 6 50 9 30 **The Smurfs** 12 15 2:20 4:25 6 30 8 35 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 12 45 3 35 6 35 9 15 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2** 12 50 2 10 3 45 6 45 9 35 **Winnie the Pooh** 12 30 **Horrible Bosses** 4 55 7 10, 9:30 **The Tree of Life** 8 45.

****See website for details*

PARAMOUHT TWIH CIHEMA

241 North Main St. Barre 479-9621 www.lghtheaters.com

wednesday 3 — thursday 11
The Smurfs 1 30 6 30 9 30 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. Part 2** (3-D) 1 30, 6 15 8.

ST ALBANS DRIVE-IN THEATRE

429 Swanton Rd. Saint Albans, 524-7725 www.stalbansdrivein.com

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Cowboys & Aliens at dusk, followed by **Bridesmaids**

Full schedule not available at press time

THE SAVOY THEATER

25 Main St. Montpelier 229-0509, www.savoytheater.com

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Upstairs: **The Tree of Life** 1 4, 8 30 (Wed only) 6 8 45 Downstairs **Page Dan: Inside the New York Times** Wed 1 30 Thu 6 30 8 30 **World Cinema Wednesday: My Perestroika** Wed only 6 30, 8 30

friday 5 — thursday 11
****Ballet in Cinema: Don Quixote (Bolshoi)** Sun 1 Tue 6 30 Upstairs **Buck** 1 & 3 30 (Sat, Mon & Wed only) 6 30 8 30 Downstairs **Bill Cunningham New York** 1 30 (Sat & Mon & Wed only) 6 (Sat-Mon & Thu only), 8 (Fri-Mon & Thu only).

***See website for details.*

STOWE CINEMA 3 PLEX

Mountain Rd. Stowe 253-4678

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Cowboys & Aliens 7 9 15 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 7 9 15 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** 7 30

friday 5 — thursday 11
***The Change-Up** 2 30 & 4 30 (Sat & Sun only) 7 9 10 **Cowboys & Aliens** 2:30 & 4 40 (Sat & Sun only) 7 9 15 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 2 30 & 4 40 (Sat & Sun only) 7 9 15.

SUNSET DRIVE-IN

165 Potters Point Road Just off Rte. 127 Colchester 862-1800 www.sunsetdrivein.com

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Cowboys & Aliens at dusk, followed by **Horrible Bosses. Crazy, Stupid, Love** at dusk followed by **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 Captain America: The First Avenger** at dusk, followed by **Transformers: Dark of the Moon Friends With Benefits** at dusk, followed by **Bad Teacher**

friday 5 — thursday 11
***Rise of the Planet of the Apes** at dusk, followed by **Captain America: The First Avenger *The Change-Up** at dusk, followed by **Friends With Benefits** followed (Fri & Sat only) by **Bridesmaids. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** at dusk followed by **Crazy Stupid Love Cowboys & Aliens** at dusk, followed by **Horrible Bosses.**

WELDEN THEATER

104 No. Main St. St. Albans, 527-7888, www.weldentheatre.com

wednesday 3 — thursday 4
Cowboys & Aliens 4 7 9 15 **Winnie the Pooh** 2 4 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 2, 7 9 15 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** 2 4 15 7 9 15

friday 5 — thursday 11
***Rise of the Planet of the Apes** 2 7 9 15 **Cowboys & Aliens** 2 7 9 15 **Winnie the Pooh** 2 4 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 4 7 **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2** 4 9 15

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THE SMURFS★1/2 The little blue dudes accustomed to inhabiting a magical land of limited vocabulary find themselves in present-day NYC in this live-action/animation hybrid. With Hank Azaria, Neil Patrick Harris and Katy Perry contributing the voice of Smurfette. Raja (*Beverly Hills Chihuahua*) Gosnell directed. (86 min. PG. Bijou, Essex 3-D, Majestic 3-D, Palace, Paramount)

TRANSFORMERS: DARK OF THE MOON★★ The Autobots, Decepticons and Shia LaBeouf are back to do and survive more smashing in the third entry in the toy-based franchise from director Michael Bay. Megan Fox is not — the role of Hot Girl implausibly involved with Our Hero has been taken by model Rosie Huntington-Whiteley. With Hugo Weaving, Ken Jeong and Patrick Dempsey. (157 min. PG-13. Essex, Majestic, Sunset. ends 8/4)

THE TREE OF LIFE★★★★1/2 The Palme d'Or at Cannes went to this autobiographical epic from Terrence (*The Thin Red Line*) Malick, in which the life story of one man (Sean Penn) merges with questions about human life itself. Brad Pitt plays his dad; Jessica Chastain his mom. (139 min. PG-13. Palace, Savoy)

WINNIE THE POOH★★★1/2 Disney makes a play for the nostalgic adult audience (and their kids, of course) with this old-school hand-drawn animation based on A.A. Milne's stories of the honey-loving bear; his depressive companion, Eeyore; and their forest friends. With the voices of John Cleese, Jim Cummings, Bud Luckey and Craig Ferguson. Stephen J. Anderson and Don Hall directed. (69 min. G. Essex, Majestic, Marquis, Palace, Welden)

WORLD CINEMA WEDNESDAYS: In Robin Hessman's documentary *My Perestroika*, five Russians talk about witnessing the fall of communism in their teens and how life in their country has changed since. (87 min. NR. Savoy)

ZOOKEEPER★1/2 Another family comedy with talking animals. In this one, lovelorn zookeeper Kevin James gets romantic advice from his charges. Does he dare take tips from a monkey voiced by Adam Sandler? Nick Nolte, Cher, Sylvester Stallone and Judd Apatow also contributed voice talent. Frank (*Click*) Coraci directed. (104 min. PG. Capital, Majestic. ends 8/4)

THE ROXY CINEMAS

MOVIE*quiz*

MERRILLTHEATRES.NET

ART: NICK WORRAL

A PIECE OF THE ACTION

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TITLE_____



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SAMANTHA WENDEL

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2 *THE ASSASSINATION OF JESSE JAMES BY THE COWARD ROBERT FORD*
3 *TROY*
4 *SNATCH*

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Curses, Foiled Again

Responding to reports of a man and a woman slashing tires at an apartment complex, Atlanta police arrested the woman, but the man escaped. A few minutes later, he returned to the scene and approached television news reporter Amanda Cook during her on-air report, claiming to be a witness to the crime. Cook's photographer recognized him as the suspect, and police arrested him. The man, who is married to the woman, apparently wanted to appear on camera to blame the incident on her. "He did tell us that his wife takes a lot of Xanax," Cook reported, "and sometimes she goes crazy" (Atlanta's WSB-TV)

When music teacher Liu Hao, 39, appeared as a contestant on Chinese TV's popular dating show "Happy League," police recognized him as Wu Gang, wanted for stabbing a man to death more than 13 years ago. "Liu had become accustomed to his new identity and fooling everyone around him, so he didn't think twice about going on the show," police investigator Li Ang said after Liu was apprehended. "He had managed to escape the law for so long he became overconfident about not being caught." (Associated Press)

Current Events

Millions of tons of debris washed out to sea by Japan's March 11 tsunami are moving across the Pacific Ocean and could start washing up on California, Oregon and Washington beaches in 2013 or early 2014. "The area north of Tokyo was basically shredded," said Seattle oceanographer Curtis Ebbesmeyer, who estimates the debris — everything from furniture to roofs to pieces of cars, even tractor-trailers — is moving east at roughly 10 miles a day and is spread over an area about 350 miles wide and 1300 miles long. Lots of the flotsam will break up and sink, but some won't, Ebbesmeyer predicted, pointing out, "Things float a lot longer than you think." (*San Jose Mercury News*)

Slightest Provocation

Sheriff's deputies arrested Lon Allen Groves, 40, in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., after he put a gun to his wife's head while the two were arguing over which granddaughter was her favorite. (*Northwest Florida Daily News*)

Sheriff's deputies arrested Kenneth Charles Stuck, 46, after he smashed a toilet against the front door of a house in Hudson, Fla., because he had given the homeowner money to buy more beer but the man was taking too long to return. (*St Petersburg Times*)

Jason Banks, 29, choked his girlfriend and hit her in the face, according to police in Ambridge, Pa., when she complained that he had never written a song about her (Associated Press)

Authorities charged three men in connection with the murder of their mother in Alberta, Minn. "She wanted to play Yahtzee, and they didn't," Stevens County Sheriff Randy Wilhs said after criminal charges were filed against Dylan C. Clemens, 25, and his half-brothers, Andrew Q. Cobb, 18, and Jacob S. Cobb, 17. "That seemed to be in their minds what expedited her sudden demise." (*Minneapolis Star Tribune*)

Contrary to Popular Belief

North Dakota has never been a state, according to John Rolczynski, 82. The Grand Forks resident explained North Dakota's original constitution limits requiring the executive branch and other high-ranking officials to take the oath of office, contradicting the federal Constitution and thus invalidating it. State Sen. Tim Mathern introduced a bill to fix the wording, but residents won't vote on it until November 2012. Meanwhile, Rolczynski pointed out the constitution states that the Red River forms North Dakota's entire eastern border, but for 41 miles the Bois De Sioux River marks the boundary (Fargo's KVLY-TV)

Freak Accidents

Attempting to save her cancer stricken dog from being put down, Taylor Mae Stinchcomb, 15, stole the family minivan and fled her home in Gurnee, Ill., with the dog and a friend. When she became too distressed to drive, she let the 15-year-old friend take over. Police said the friend lost control of the van and crashed into several trees and a utility pole, killing Stinchcomb and the dog. (Fox News)

Litigation Nation

Kyle Richards, 21, an inmate at Michigan's Macomb County jail, filed a lawsuit against Gov. Rick Snyder and the state, insisting he is being subjected to cruel and unusual punishment because jail rules prevent convicts from possessing erotic and pornographic materials. Declaring that the ban amounts to "psychological warfare," Richards stated that he suffers from chronic masturbation syndrome and severe sexual discomfort, which he labeled as physical ailments caused by living conditions behind bars. John Cordell of the state Department of Corrections said the suit is misdirected, explaining that state prison inmates are allowed to possess porn. Macomb County bans porn, but Richards didn't sue the county. (*Detroit News*)

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY BY ROB BREZSNY

AUGUST 4-10

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Astronomer Sir Fred Hoyle rejected the prevailing scientific theory that life on this planet emerged by accident from a primordial soup. The chance of that happening was as likely as "a tornado sweeping through a junkyard [and assembling] a Boeing 747 from the materials therein." I do think that something less amazing but still semi-miraculous, is in the works for you, Leo. What do you imagine it might be? I'm getting a vision of a windy thunderstorm blowing through a junkyard in such a way as to assemble an impressionistic sculpture of you wearing a crown of flowers and X-Ray Specs as you ride confidently on the back of a lion.



ARIES (March 21-April 19) Symbolically speaking, there is a Holy Grail hidden close to you and you know it, but you haven't been able to find it. The Grail is a golden chalice filled with medicine that could open what needs opening in you. Luckily you will soon come into possession (symbolically speaking) of a big, thick magical wand that can give you a new advantage. Here's what I conclude: Use your wizard stick to locate the cup of wonder so you can take a big sip.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Much of the work you're doing right now is invisible to the naked eye, maybe even to your own naked eye. You're learning a lot while you sleep, drawing sustenance from hidden reservoirs even when you're awake, and steadily improving yourself through the arts of creative forgetting and undoing. Continue this subtle artistry, Taurus. Be cagey. Be discreet. Don't underestimate how important silence and even secrecy may be for you right now. The healing transformations unfolding in almost total darkness should not be exposed or revealed prematurely; they should be protected with vigilance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) *Either Way I'm Celebrating*: That's the title of a poetry comic book by Sommer Browning, and I suggest that you consider it as a worthy title for your life in the coming days. The adventure you're in the midst of could evolve in several possible directions, each with a different rhythm and tone, each with a distinct lesson and climax. But regardless of what path you end up taking, I'm almost positive you will have good reasons to throw yourself a party at the end. Having said that, though, I also advise you to decide which version of the story you prefer, then make it your strong intention to materialize it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) During the skunk mating season, two robust members of the species made the crawl space beneath my house their trysting place. The result was spectacular. Siren like squalls rose from their ecstasy spiraling up into my kitchen accompanied by plumes of a stench that I imagined the Italian poet Dante, in his book *The Inferno*, might have identified as native to the ninth level of hell. Being as lo-tech as I am, I naturally appreciated how much delight the creatures were enjoying. At the same time, I wished they would take their revelry elsewhere. So I called on the Humane Society, an animal rescue group to flush them out without harming them. If anything resembling this scenario takes place in your sphere, Cancerian — if someone's pursuit of happiness cramps your style — I suggest you adopt my gentle but firm approach.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) In the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*, the yellow brick road symbolizes a path leading to all of life's answers, to a place where fantasies can be fulfilled. Dorothy and her companions follow that road in the belief it will take them to the all-powerful Wizard of Oz in the Emerald City. While I don't mind you playing with the idea that you may eventually find your own personal yellow brick road for the immediate future I urge you to adopt the attitude Elton John articulated in his song, "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road": "Oh I've finally decided my future lies beyond the yellow brick road." It's time to add more nuts and bolts pragmatism to your pursuit of happiness.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Some readers get enraged about the "crafty optimism" I advocate in my book *Pronoia Is the Antidote for Paranoia*. Given what they regard as the miserable state of the world, they feel it's a sin to look for reasons to be cheerful. One especially sour critic said that after reading a few pages of the book, he took it out in his backyard, doused it with gasoline and incinerated it. You may face similar opposition in your attempts to foment redemption, smoke out hope and rally the troops, Libra. I urge you to be extra fierce in your devotion to peace, love and understanding.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Of all the adversaries I will ever face, my ego is the supreme challenge. It tries to trick me into thinking its interests are exactly the same as my own. It periodically strives to bamboozle me into believing that I should be motivated by pride, competitiveness, selfishness or judgmental evaluations of other people. When I'm not vigilant, it lulls me into adopting narrow perspectives and subjective theories that are rife with delusions about the nature of reality. Don't get me wrong: I still love my ego. Indeed, being on good terms with it is my only hope for keeping it from manipulating me. I bring this up, Scorpio, because it's prime time for you to come to a riper understanding of your own ego so you can work out a tougher, more no-nonsense agreement with it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Sagittarian author Derrick Jensen wrote the book *A Language Older Than Words*. He weaves together the tale of his abusive childhood with an angry analysis of the damage human beings have done to the earth and each other. It's a wrenching text, but in the end it offers redemption. A review by *Publisher's Weekly* says that "Jensen's book accomplishes the rare feat of both breaking and mending the reader's heart." I invite you to pursue a similar possibility, Sagittarius. Summon the courage to allow your heart to be broken by a blessed catharsis that will ultimately heal your heart as it's never been stronger and smarter then it was before the breaking.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Right now you may be feeling especially squeezed by one of the apparent contradictions in your life. But I'm here to tell you that it's not as contradictory as you think. Its seemingly paradoxical elements are in righteous harmony with each other at a higher level of understanding. Can you rise to that higher level so as to see what has been hidden from your view? I believe you can. For best results, let go of any temptation you might have to act as if you're oppressively defined by your past.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Psychologist and priest David Rickey counsels people who are about to be married. "You are perfectly mismatched," he likes to tell them. As much as you think you have chosen each other because of beauty or shared interests, the deeper reason is that unconsciously you knew the other person is going to push your buttons. And the purpose of relationships is for you to discover and work on your buttons." I share Rickey's views and offer them to you just in time to make maximum use of their wisdom. You see, Aquarius, you're in a phase when you have extraordinary power to learn from and adjust to the challenges that come from having your buttons pushed by those you care about.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) In his song "Crazy," British singer Seal repeats the following line numerous times for emphasis: "We're never going to survive unless we get a little crazy." I recommend it as a mantra for you to rely on in the coming days. Your emotional health will depend on your ability to laugh at yourself, play along with absurdity and cultivate a grateful reverence for cosmic oddities. Being a little crazy will not only keep you robustly sane. It will also allow you to enjoy and capitalize on the divine comedy life presents you with.

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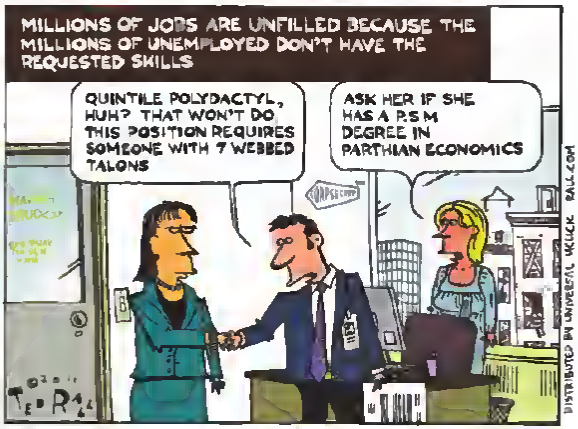
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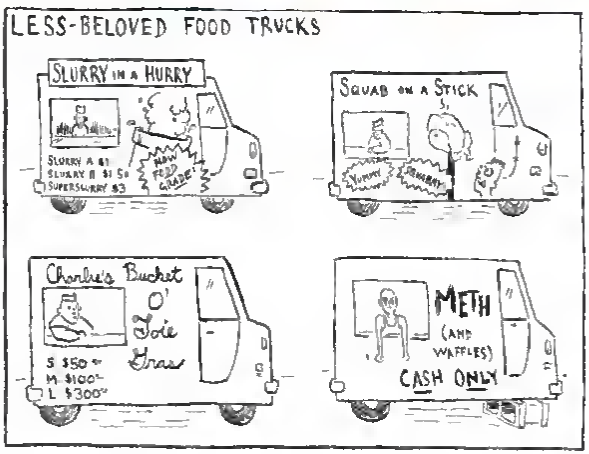


"What's that look? C'mon, you're scaring me!"

TED RALL



LULU EIGHTBALL



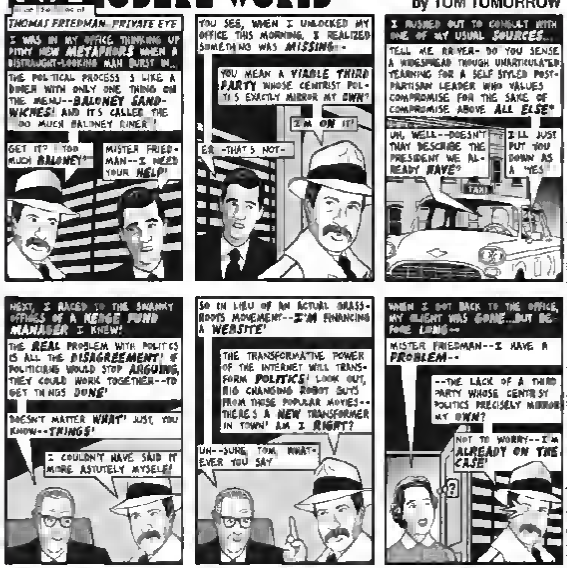
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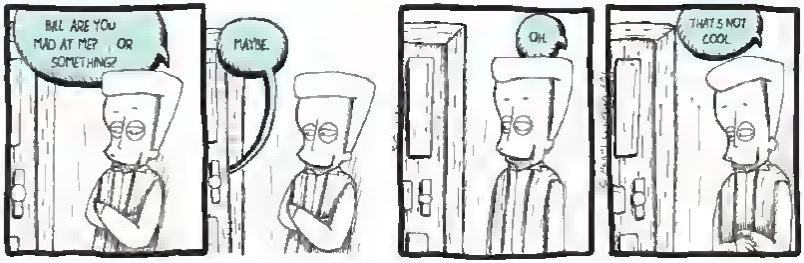
THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



Bill the Cockroach

HENRY GUSTAVSON



AMERICAN ELF

THE SKETCHBOOK DIARIES OF JAMES KOCHALKA

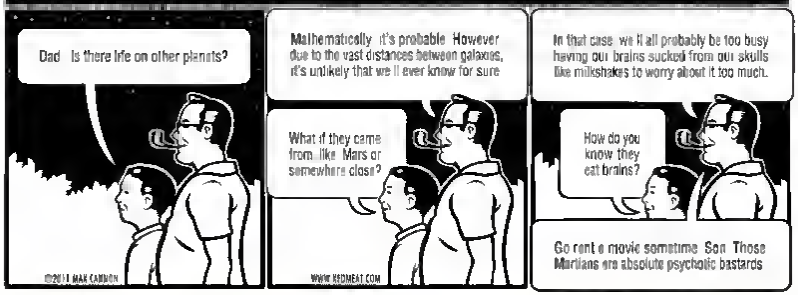
read a new strip each day at americanelf.com



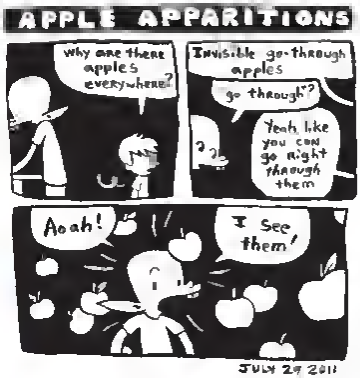
RED MEAT

board game blisters

from the secret files of Max Cannon



APPLE APPARITIONS



TINY SEPUKU @2011

DEAR TINY,
HOW DO I BREAK IT TO MY ULTRA-STRICT PARENTS THAT MY SECRET, ONLINE, LONG DISTANCE BOYFRIEND IS COMING TO VISIT ME NEXT SUMMER?
-KITTY MINX
CALIFORNIA



OLIVER'S

BAD STORY

MR. YO-YO GOES TO THE FAIR



MORE FUN! STRAIGHT DOPE (P.22) NEWS QUIRKS & FREE WILL ASTROLOGY (P72)

CALCOKU & SUDOKU (P.C-2) & CROSSWORD (P.C-5)

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OR ONLINE AT **sevendaysvt.com.**

Grand prize drawing on Wednesday, August 17 at 8pm at Nectar's (Burlington). Must be present to win

SEVEN DAYS
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PERSONALS

For relationships, dates, flirts and I-spys:
sevendaysvt.com/personals



WOMEN seeking MEN

BALANCED CARING THOUGHTFUL
I am an even grounded, happy and peaceful person. I feel like I have room in my life for something more. Some companionship, friendship and more? I love going to the beach, yoga reading watching movies cooking or going out to dinner and a show. **adb330, 40, #121708**

DANCING FRIENDLY
Out going aho energetic. Love VT and love to travel. I've got a big, open heart, I like to be active both physically and socially. There's always a lot more to say but hey. I'd love to meet someone who is enjoying life and wants to share it with an upbeat, funky lady like me. Bueno bueno **kinfolks, 25 ☐ #121703**

HARDCORE, HEALTHY AND KICK ASS
Work hard play harder sleep like the dead. Honesty is numbet one for me. Friendship first, not interested in hook ups. I'd like to find a mau who cares about the world around us can keep up can build a relationship out of friendship and maybe a tool shed too. Does this guy exist? **smitty1 42 ☐ #121696**

UPBEAT, POSITIVE, FUN, QUIRKY SERIOUS
I'm a confident, honest, cute and very independent woman that knows herself well. I thrive on communication! I have a creative background that seeks something similar. Seeking new friendships that are exciting and giving that could possibly grew into something fun, intense and challenging. RU My Superman? **RUSuperman 43 ☐ #121681**

FUN ACTIVE CUDDLEA
I'm a hard person to pin down there are so many sides of me. I'm loyal bright, curious able to adapt to new concepts aho philosophias funny a bit of a chemeleon, and am in touch with my inner child. Looking for someone that is similar to me, active fun, has a sense of humor and loves to cuddle. **outofbox 46 ☐ #121621**

FUN-LOVING EASY LAUGHING BUSINESSWOMAN
I have a really full life and am ready to share it with someone. I live lightly on the earth. I own my own business. I make unbelievably delicious healthy food. I'm partly Latina. I equally enjoy a fancy dinner or a camping slinner. I'm looking for laughs having fun and growing together. Let's chat! **loviwife, 37 ☐ #116598**

SEXY, EASYGOING, PROFESSIONAL
No drama here looking for an honest, good-hearted man. I am a SWF with a nice smile, honest and a very good listener. I love passionate kissing and love taking care of my man. I want to have intimacy but will settle for a good friend. Looking for fun before summer ends. **murph912, 44 ☐ #121652**

WITTY SENSUOUS, ADVENTUROUS CREATIVE SPONTANEOUS
I'm all about a sexy intelligent, creative man who loves life and having fun. I absolutely love a romantic man who isn't afraid of public displays of affection. I enjoy spending time with someone who is spontaneous, yet grounded who can have fun in the kitchen as well as the bedroom. I love to experience all life has to offer. **Sadiebaby 50 ♂ #121646**

BACK BENDS MAKE FRIENDS
I am a new nurse finishing the RN year while single parenting and making it look easy. Ha. Maybe not the making it look easy part. I love anything outside, being active, random adventures road trips dancing. **ammonite, 28 ☐ #120310**

WOMEN seeking WOMEN

KIND, GENTLE, POSITIVE-MINDED WOMAN
42 y.o. life coach looking for life partner. o positive-minded, kind intelligent, compassionate woman who appreciates good things, laughter fun, quiet times and romance. See my online ad. **Mayaroza, 42 ☐ #121610**

TRYING TO FIND ME
I am caught at a crossroads. Looking to find that special person to enter into my life and help me find me. I want to explore my sexuality and discover who I am meant to be with. I have a lot of questions about myself and my possible orientation. Looking to be discreet until I can figure it all out. **lala2907 35 #121660**

NERDY, SILLY, FEMME
I am a nerdy girl born and raised in VT. I enjoy having dinner at home with a nice glass of wine to going out most of the time. I like to exercise and stay busy. I play the guitar aho the piano. I make jewelry mostly for myself. I love to dance and I love music. **mels 28 #121666**

BLONDE, SARDONIC, CLUSTER B
Greetings Women of Burlington! Have you grown tired of the ubiquitous nature of the local lesbians? Would you prefer someone other than a butch girl with an affinity for terrible haircuts and a hatred of all things shaven? Well, I have a clever solution. Contact me, and I will prove that Burlington does possess at least one Femme. **DorianGay 21, ♂ ☐, #121586**

LOOKING FOR YOU!
Im pretty melo. Love dogs Camping fishing or just chilling with good ty. I dant play games im honest sometimes too honest. Im ok with being alone but would like to find the one. I know who I am and want the same from my partner. Looking for a stable honest woman who likes me for me! **dimplesforu 34 ☐ #121429**

INTROSPECTIVE, DETERMINED, WISTFUL
Friendship, then attraction follows. **cometcups 40 #121478**

MEN seeking WOMEN

COUNTRY WANTS SOME
I am a teddy bear. There isn't much I don't like to do. I have a girlfriend, but we have been together for a while and she has no interest in doing things any more. I am looking for someone to meet occasionally. I know how to take care of a woman. I would like the same. **she_said_I_could, 33, #121595**

EXPANDING THE NETWORK
I am a fun-loving, outdoorsy guy. I live in a small town so I am trying to expand my horizons. I love to mountain bike and hike with my dog. In the winter I snowboard and recently started cross-country skiing as well. I love food, so eating out and barbecuing are also a lot of fun with friends. **lovinlifeVTstyle 38 ☐ #121600**

LIFE IS A TREAT
Looking for Earth momma, music, theater and culture aficionado, dog lover, outdoorsy type, joker, project work lover (talking, stacking haybales, carrying sap, feeding chickens). **SimpleCountry, 38 ☐ #113978**

AN HONEST FUN MAN
I like music, playing, watching, and listening to it. Movies sure do. I also like to just get out in the intervale early in the morning and walk. I love to explore hidden parts of the state. Taking Amtrak to DC for a long weekend. So much to do in life. It is better to travel this road with someone. **passionsinvt, 50, ☐ #121242**

CURIOUS?

You read *Seven Days*, these people read *Seven Days* — you already have at least one thing in common!

All the action is online. Browse more than 2000 local singles with profiles including photos, voice messages, habits, desires, views and more

It's free to place your own profile online. Don't worry, you'll be in good company.

☐ See photos of this person online.

☎ Hear this person's voice online

NOT ON THE 'NET?
You can leave voicemail for any of the nice folks above by calling:

1-520-547-4556

ADVENTURER
I am really bad at this, so I am having two of my female co-workers write this for me. I will update it as soon as they finish it. **usboaterdad, 36 ☐ #121647**

MORE ACTION LESS SOCIAL SCENE
I'm a 29 year old former and dedicated life adventurer. Mountains aerobic activity small fruit and 90s hip-hop make me happy. Searching for an active, asocial woman to share one-on-one life experiences with. High-energy childish anecdotes and emotions are a must. **eclecticadventurer 28 ☐ #121628**

MEN seeking MEN

STARK RAVIN MAD
Consider yergilimbo. Bilbo out on a new adventure, seeking a companion. I read some, ski, hike, bike, hang out, am sort of artsy, love exploring weird, out of the way places. In search of stimulating energetic, horny knacker. **bluerider 64 ☐ #112981**

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

WOMEN seeking MEN

REAL, PRESENT, CONNECTED AND FUN!
Social Justice teacher with big heart, love of people and languages, looking for LTR with man 25-35. Redhead. White. 5'5". Far left-leaning activist, vegetarian, living in Southern VT. Want kids! **Carrottop, 27 ☐ #121654**

FROM HER ONLINE PROFILE. What is the one thing you hate that everybody else loves? Shooping (most of the time)

LOOKING FOR THE REAL THING
I love the outdoors, music, reading, dining in/out, day trips, travel. I believe in communication, honesty, sensitivity and romance. I love my kids. To describe my match: she is successful. It can be in just about anything as long as she is happy. She should be confident, self assured and with clear direction in life. Please no games, no drama. **Justaguy, 48, #102643**

VERMONT EXPLORER
The world captivates me. There is so much to see, do, learn, experience and the people who fill my life are all incredible. I'm a recent transplant from the Midwest, and I'm trying to get the most out of Vermont while I'm here. Let's explore this beautiful state together. **vt_c_t, 25 ☐ #121656**

RETIRED SCORPIO MIKER
Humorous guy looking for pool partners, outdoorsy women for dating, dinner and dessert. I would rather drive across the country than fly over it. I would rather debate something without settling it than settle it without debating it. I try to learn something new every day. My friends are my best teachers. Looks are important, loving life essential. **czar, 59 ☐ #116198**

FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS
Happily married for 14 years, and my relationship recently opened up to seeing other people. I love to do things with my body: dance, swim, skate, snowboard and toss a frisbee. I am looking for that special girl to come and hang out with me in the woods, on the mountain, at a club, at a bar, your house? **Danielsan, 35 ☐ #121655**

ARE YOU THE ONE?
Honest, open minded arts driven man seeking same to get together for good times and maybe friendship. **oceanic71, 40 #121070**

IN FIVE WORDS OR LESS?
Seeking friendship mostly. I skies much as possible, lifelong avid Alpine skier but mostly Nordic lately. Also enjoy snowshoeing, hiking, mountain biking and sailing. Blue skies are my favorite days. I enjoy live acoustic music, good food, and a little good wine or microbrew with that. The road less traveled with an occasional but brief plunge into the city. **Ski802, 60, #120397**

BI NOW GAY LATER
Bi married male seeking other gay or bi men for fun times and friendship. **bigguy69, 33, ♂ #117616**

HEY ALL
Hi guys. Looking for NSA winter buddies to play with. Friends cool too. I'm 40, 5'10", 170, dark hair & eyes, not bad looking with nice package. Looking for guys 18-48 who are height/weight prop. 6"+. Discretion assured. Hope to hear from ya! **Buster, 42, ♂, #111080**

MORE RISQUÉ?
TURN THE PAGE

PERSONALS

For group fun, BDSM play, and full-on kink:
sevendaysvt.com/personals



WOMEN seeking

LONELY DONOR
Shy sanguarian donor looking for a host. **yhcaeptsuy 24 #121673**

NOVICE SUB SEEKS EXPERIENCED D/COUPLE
Not here to mealnoar serious about frheing a playmate(s). I hese with experience. I m not interested in becoming a f/t sub, unless swept off feet (literally). I have zero interest in becoming a slave. I hope that you'll consider writing to me to see if I here's chemistry ahe we can begin trust building from I here. I m not one to blve in far safety reasons the person(s) I'm looking for: patient/open communication. **sadiesub696, 32 ♂ ☐ #121679**

NEW TO THIS
I don t like a man who shaves his — I would like a rugged streng man and a shaved public area I akes away from any sert of bravado you may be outwardly projecting. **Ny_Princess 27 #121659**

TIE ME UP
If you like to be dominant, this is the one for you. I love roughness and domination. I m new to the online dating world but am looking for some commitment. Free encounters. **allmylovin 24 #121605**

NAUGHTY LOCAL GIRLS
WANT TO CONNECT
WITH YOU
1-888-420-BABE
69¢

YOUNG AT HEART
I may be approaching old age, doesn't mean I can I have fun! Looking for men ages 21-100. I bo like it rough. Don't worry, I just had my hip replaced. I won't break! ☺ **younginside 64 #121568**

SWEET AND INNOCENT ☺
I may look sweet and innocent, I am the type of girl you can bring home to mom ahe dad. But in the bedroom or other places I can get a lll le freaky. Looking for some discreet fun men ages 25 to 40. **heileysmommy 25 #118003**

AGED TO PERFECTION
Like a fine wine, some things just get better with age! I am a mature, sexy woman looking to start over. I was married to my late husband all my life and am looking for new excitement. It's never too late! Teach me how to "as the kids say" dougie! **silverfoxx, 63 #121512**

LITTLE SECRET
Cute bohemienne searching for the Marcus Mumford to my Laura Marling. Let's meet for coffee and conversation and see where it goes from there. **gymscope 26 ♂ #121450**

NOT PHONE FANTASIES WOMAN COUPLE
I am an experienced 70's, hot, sexy woman looking for a woman, man or couple to talk with and enjoy phone fantasies. Someone who will talk with me and my man. We enjoy good hot sex, lots of kissing and touching, oral sex. Bring in your toys and dildo. Fantasies from you and us together **mymomadoll 73 ♀ #121297**

WHAT'S YOUR HOROSCOPE?
Did you know Scorpio is the most sexual of signs? Looking for some NSA summer fun. Don t be afraid to contact me for a walk on the wild side! **sexiscorpio69 25 ♀ #121339**

CURIOUS TO KISS A WOMAN
I am looking for a fun, d/d free woman or couple to share my first girl/girl experience. I am really excited to experiment with my sexuality. My husband and I are very happily married but we want to experiment with another woman, or I would entertain a couple. My husband is not into guys, he's a spectator. **curious2kisswoman, 45 ♀ #121270**

NEEDING SOME EXTRA KINKY FUN
Attached Poly woman seeking friends to have regular "playdates" with. I am switch and bi, so all may apply. I do like it rough. Not into lying please. No cheaters. **bigreubeltom 40, #108213**

SCOTTISH LASS
Seeking warm waves of liquid pleasure **nancywhiskey 24 ♀, #121196**

SUMMER LOVIN'
Looking for fun. A cool woman to hang with. Drinks, sun, beach and whatever comes from that. Chemistry willing! ☺ **funone 38, #121102**

HEAVENSANGEL FOR YOU
I am a vibrant woman looking for that special man who is loving, caring, honest and who likes to play sometimes. I am also D&D free. **Heavensangel4u, 48 ♀, #120924**

HUNGRY
In a committed relationship with a much less hungry man. He knows I am looking around but, out of respect, discretion is a must. I am looking for a man who wants discreet encounters to leave us breathless and wet. Laughter, playfulness, mutual respect a must. Into light bandage, oral play etc., mostly I want to get laid. **penobscot, 42, ♀, #119855**

LOVE SEX
Would like to find a good man, willing to give relationships a try. Unafraid to be honest. Have fun in life, no downers. Can be fun if you give it a chance to work out. In need of a relationship w/ one who cares. Will put in lots of feedback & lots of attention. **EA2001, 43 #105992**

MEN seeking

THE LADY CUMS FIRST
Looking for a lady that wants to be pleasured with the tongue. I welcome married ladies that are bored with what's at home. **tongueaction, 39, #121710**

BARK FOR ME TONIGHT
Lets get a collar on you and I each you some manners. Dont make me repeat myself or I'll have to punish you. Nnt looking to just dominate I can take orders. I have a tongue made for licking and an insatiable hunger to satisfy women. Late 20s tall and well endowed. Lets eat out then I can eat you out. **HaniFeelsGood 27 ♂ #121580**

OUTDOORS GUY LOOKING FOR FUN
I am an athletic, intelligent guy who loves to do all sorts of outdoor activities. When it comes to sex, I am open minded and a giving lover. I like women of all types and ronges, and am not crazy freaky, but I do like variety in the sheets. **gmmtnguy7 33 ♂ #121677**

NEED OLDER WOMAN'S HELP
Looking for an older woman with experience between 30-45 to show me the ropes. I'll try anything at least once and anal is a must. **FreshnFlyVt, 20, #121074**

LOOKING FOR A FWB
Active, athletic father of three. My relationship has recently opened up to seeing other people. Looking for a cute, smart, sexy girl to be my buddy for adventures and excitement. I love to be outside doing active stuff like skateboarding, snowboarding, swimming, hiking and canoeing. Interested in a non commitment based relationship? I may be your guy. **powrysler 35 ♂ #121668**

SHY GUY NEEDS A FRIEND
I'm not really looking for a relationship I would like to find a FWB. I don t really know what else to say except I'm a shy guy and would like to meet someone nice and fun. I don t really mind if they want to be friends, FWB or more. **BrokenHeart, 28 ♂ #121665**

LOVE MATURE WOMEN
Young guy here, always fantasized about mature women. Not plastic 50 year olds you see in porn but a real mature woman. Want... NEED to fulfill this fantasy. **atentorn, 24 ♂ #121657**

CUNNING LINGUIST SEEKS GOOD CONVERSATION
Educated professional, 55, tall, heavy set. "Oh God, I m cumming is music to my ears. I'm bi, so your mans welcome. I'm very oral, good with my hands and love toys. D/d free, discretion given and expected. Have Hitachi will travel. I think brains are sexy, don t you? **RogerO, 55 ♂ #121645**

HOT AND FUN!
I am a big, fun and erotic guy, but carry it well with a good build. You will enjoy my company. I am looking for a woman that would also like to have some no-strings fun once in a while at her place. Be it for play, arousal, touch and explore or to carry out a fetish. **puzzlemen05, 53 ♂, #121644**

LOOKING FOR NSA DISCREET FUN
I am d/d free, very discreet. Looking for NSA fun. **thedeparted'vt, 30 ♂, #102621**

OTHER seeking

SEXY YOUNG COUPLE LOOKING!
We are new to this and looking for a couple or female to meet, have drinks and see where it goes from there. Or looking for a couple who is not new to this who can show us the ropes! She is 5'7" 125lbs slender (hot). He is 6'2" 200lbs. Athletic, professional and clean looking for same. **3330advantunecouple 33 #121682**

FARM-TIME FUN
Five sexy beasts looking for action. Singles or groups. No grenades/man-grenades. Post-coital weeding required. mmmmf6fffffm **Hungry_Farmers 22 ♂ #121076**

COUPLE LOOKING FOR EXTRA LOVER
We are looking for another girl that's not afraid of having a threesome, someone that doesn't mind just having sex, nothing serious at first but willing to go into something serious if it goes to that point. NO STDs. **lovlygirl420 22 #121653**

POSITION OPEN/LOOKING TO FILL
Applicant requirements: sexy, fun outgoing, assertive and confident female experience not necessary (willing to train the right person). Position offers opportunity for travel, outdoor activity, savory feasts, fun in and out of the bedroom. We have an excellent benefits package with room to grow. You will be paid in orgasms. We look forward to an oral interview. **evEhippie 38, #121640**

COUPLE LOOKING FOR PLAYDATE
I am a 30-year old bi female looking for a girl to spend time with and possibly to involve male partner in the mix. **eee911 30 ♂ #121620**

ADVENTUROUS COUPLE LOOKING TO EXPLORE
We are your typical couple looking to meet new people, spice things up and have some fun! We want to explore our fantasies and help you explore yours as well. She is bi, average body, large breasts. He is straight, cut and well endowed. Open to almost anything, just ask! **Out4theride 34, #121574**

KINK OF THE WEEK:

WOMEN seeking

SEEKING ORAL SATISFACTION
I'm suddenly single and am missing my man's tongue. Nothing turns me on more than someone going down on me, except for maybe someone going down on me after a massage. Gender doesn't matter but I'm not interested in reciprocating as the fun for me is in receiving. If you can handle those selfish terms, let's connect! **seekingoral 38 ♀ #121658**

FROM HER ONLINE PROFILE. My biggest turn on is. .
Receiving great oral sex maybe after a massage

CURIOUS?
You read *Seven Days*, these people read *Seven Days* — you already have at least one thing in common!
All the action is online. Browse more than 2000 local singles with profiles including photos, voice messages, habits, desires, views and more.
It's free to place your own profile online. Don't worry, you'll be in good company.
See photos of this person online
Hear this person's voice online.
NOT ON THE 'NET?
You can leave voicemail for any of the kinky folks above by calling:
1-520-547-4568

TOO INTENSE?
GO BACK 1 PAGE

iSpy

If you've been spied, go online to contact your admirer!

sevendaysvt.com/personals

OUTSIDE CHARLIE O'S SATURDAY NIGHT

Just stepped out of Charlie O's, your sexiness caught my eye. You: smoking a cigarette, wearing a hat, black knee-high boots, black T-shirt. Me: black-and-white mini skirt, black tank top, lots of gorgeous hair with blond highlights. I asked you for a smoke; you gave me the last of yours. Interested in sharing more than a cigarette? **When: Saturday, July 30, 2011. Where: Outside Charlie O's, Montpelier. You: Men. Me: Women. #909318**

WEDNESDAY WONDERS WITH CUTE MD

Somewhere in between McSteamy and McDreamy you made my heart skip a beat. I saw you from afar and stole a second peek; my knees went weak. Cure me? I'll be the Lois Lane to your Clark Kent. If we meet in the place where we first met. **When: Wednesday, July 27, 2011. Where: Daily P. You: Man. Me: Woman. #909315**

THINKING OF YOU

Whether it was watching nature videos, online or seeing you paint on your wall, being around you made me feel happy, healthy, vital and alive. I hope that we can reconnect again, soul friend. **When: Friday, July 29, 2011. Where: Studio apt., front porch, futon. You: Woman. Me: Man. #909314**

BEAUTY IN POSITIVE PIE 7/23

Sat next to you at the bar at Positive Pie 2 on Saturday evening, 7/23. You were with your daughter (?) and I was with a friend. You smiled at me and I was instantly enchanted. Such beautiful blue eyes. Did not want to impose then, but wonder about a cup of coffee sometime? **When: Saturday, July 23, 2011. Where: Positive Pie 2. You: Woman. Me: Man. #909313**

BUSTED OPEN HEAD FIREWORKS

You were so cute, even with the blood dripping down your face across from Lift. I'm glad we were able to help you and I hope everything went OK for you at the hospital. This is Jess; hit me back and I'll give you that hug! **When: Sunday, July 3, 2011. Where: Corner of Church and Main. You: Man. Me: Woman. #909311**

BURLINGTON BAY COOKIE LOVER

I can't stand it anymore! I watch you look through the I Spys each week, looking for some attention and love. I spy you and your tangerine bike everyday sometimes for work and sometimes for play. I love it and always look forward to seeing you again the next day. Boss and bitch, gay and straight, but friends for sure. **When: Thursday, July 28, 2011. Where: In a white mobile unit. You: Men. Me: Woman. #909309**

HIRE23 IS A HOTTIE

Did I spy "hire23" in Leunig's on Monday evening? You're very hot with very nice legs. **When: Monday, July 25, 2011. Where: Leunig's. You: Woman. Me: Men. #909308**

PERHAPS I'M "CHURCH ST. HOTTIE"

I wear grey shirts often and have black bicycle panniers on my dark brown bike with a white basket. Any other descriptors you can think of? **When: Wednesday, July 27, 2011. Where: The ISpys. You: Women. Me: Men. #909307**

FRIEND OR YES, FRIEND!

Please realize how dear you are to me. I enjoy your companionship and conversation. My friendship toward you does not mean that I think of you as an unworthy person. Just someone I value so much that I can't see ruining it by pursuing into something deeper. Our personality differences would probably lead to the collapse of our friendship. Love ya! **When: Wednesday, July 27, 2011. Where: On my couch. You: Man. Me: Woman. #909306**

BUY-CURIOUS?



If you're thinking about buying a home, see all Vermont properties online:

sevendaysvt.com/homes

FRESH MARKET BAKER

You've got the bluest eyes I have ever seen. You are just so god damn beautiful. **When: Tuesday, July 26, 2011. Where: Fresh Market Cheese Outlet. You: Woman. Me: Man. #909305**

TAKING PICTURES MADE YOU LAUGH

You spied me (I think) at Finnigan's ... yes to a drink sometime. Glad to make you smile. **When: Thursday, July 21, 2011. Where: Finnigan's. You: Men. Me: Women. #909304**

ANY PORT IN A STORM (CONT.)

... but not a cloud in our sky babe. As much as you wanted to help find replacements to the split rims on our old Ford truck, AND I insisted on getting your scholarship paperwork in. You'll have to sign your own name. **When: Tuesday, July 22, 2008. Where: Campground Road, Kentucky. You: Woman. Me: Men. #909303**

I DROPPED SOMETHING

So let's pick it up here. You ran up to me to return the $20 bill that fell out of my pocket. Thanks again! I wanted to offer you a reward. How about dinner? **When: Tuesday, July 26, 2011. Where: City Market. You: Women. Me: Men. 2 #909302**

UNCOMMON GROUNDS BEFORE CLOSING

We made eye contact briefly as I walked in with my backpack and computer. You look like the kind of person who would look at these, so let me stroke your ego by telling you that hey, thanks for being so easy on the eyes :). Have a nice day. **When: Tuesday, July 26, 2011. Where: Uncommon Grounds. You: Men. Me: Women. #909301**

QUIET CUTIE BY THE BAY!

You: tall, about 6 feet, thin, broad shoulders, brown/reddish hair. You were working at Breakwaters, behind the bar making food. You looked very serious but very sweet! You came out to hug a girl in a white dress ... girlfriend? Hope not! **When: Monday, July 25, 2011. Where: Breakwaters. You: Man. Me: Woman. #909300**

CUTE MIGUEL'S HOSTESS

I pick up food for delivery at the restaurant every once in awhile. You're always working the door looking beautiful. Want to hang out sometime? **When: Saturday, July 23, 2011. Where: Miguel's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #909299**

ESSEX LEGION BASEBALL MOM

Married? No ring on at the tournament in Castleton on Sunday so hoping not. I've seen you at games now for the past four to five years. Your blond, very attractive had on a teal(?) blue shirt and navy blue shorts on Sunday when in Castleton. You drive a Lexus (if I remember darker color. If you are married, I apologize. coffee? **When: Sunday, July 24, 2011. Where: Castleton tournament. You: Woman. Me: Man. #909298**

CHARLIE O'S MONTPELIER

Sunday night about 9. You were with a friend having margaritas and I was sitting at the corner of the bar. You looked curious and too sexy with your hair tied up. Was I wrong? Next round is on me. **When: Sunday, July 24, 2011. Where: Montpelier. You: Woman. Me: Man. #909297**

BREWFEST

You: reddish curly hair, black skirt, shirt, yellow backpack with friends at Brewfest. Last call you went up for one more and were turned down. You poured the pint sample into your glasses and took off. We met at higher ground, gave you my number you never called. Seen you around town. Would love to buy you a beer. You have my number give me a call. **When: Friday, July 15, 2011. Where: Brewfest Friday night. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #909296**

TALL BLONDE AT CSAC

So you walked in around 12:30 to about quarter until 1:00 on 7/19. My eyes instantly locked on you. I just have to say wow, you are so my type: tall, 6 foot plus, with the chunky heels, athletic and aesthetically beautiful, but I bet your heart is so much more beautiful and I would like to find out. **When: Tuesday, July 19, 2011. Where: CSAC. You: Woman. Me: Man. 18 #909295**

CURLY DARK HAIR, WILLISTON

You shop where I work. Good god! You're nice to look at. You probably have a lady friend. That's OK. I can still enjoy the scenery. And boy do I ever! **When: Sunday, July 24, 2011. Where: Grocery, Williston. You: Man. Me: Woman. #909294**

Your guide to love and lust...
mistress maeve



Dear Mistress Maeve,

I always wondered what it would be like to have a woman take me anally — I had read that stimulation of the male prostate is very pleasurable. Last fall I was dating a woman who brought up an interest in trying it. She already owned a "double-ended" dildo, so we gave that a try. She used plenty of lube and worked it in gradually, but partway in, I experienced a sharp pain. Different angles did not seem to solve the issue. Her "instrument" was not exactly small, but given the ways that women have been able to take me anally (I'm larger than her toy), size alone seems like it may not be the issue. So, what was going wrong, and what should we have done differently?

Signed,
Always Exploring

Dear Always Exploring,

Kudos to you for enjoying anal stimulation. Some men who have sex with women balk when a lady knocks at their back door because they are afraid to be vulnerable, afraid it may hurt or afraid it will mean they're "gay" (which is a level of ridiculous I don't have time to get into here).

While I can't say for sure what went wrong, the discomfort may have come from the dildo passing through your second set of sphincter muscles (yes, we all have two). If you're not fully relaxed, moving through that second ring can be painful. Or, perhaps your partner's dildo caused an abrasion to the sensitive lining of your rectum. Remember, the rectum is not a long stretch of straight highway, it's more like a curvy mountain road — and everyone's curves are different. Make sure you're using toys made of flexible material that will curve with your body. Next time, you might ask your partner to use a strap-on, rather than a double-headed toy, a dildo with harness will give her more control. Finally, always use a condom: not only is it safer, but it will ensure the toy has a smooth surface for easier penetration.

Don't let this one bump on the road stop you from trying anal again. If you're hesitant to give it another go, try playing with a smaller toy or butt plug. The male prostate is located only about a half inch into the rectum, so, once again — size doesn't matter.

Backing you up,
mm

Need advice?
Email me at **mistress@sevendaysvt.com** or share your own advice on my blog at **sevendaysvt.com/blogs**

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